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May 1996
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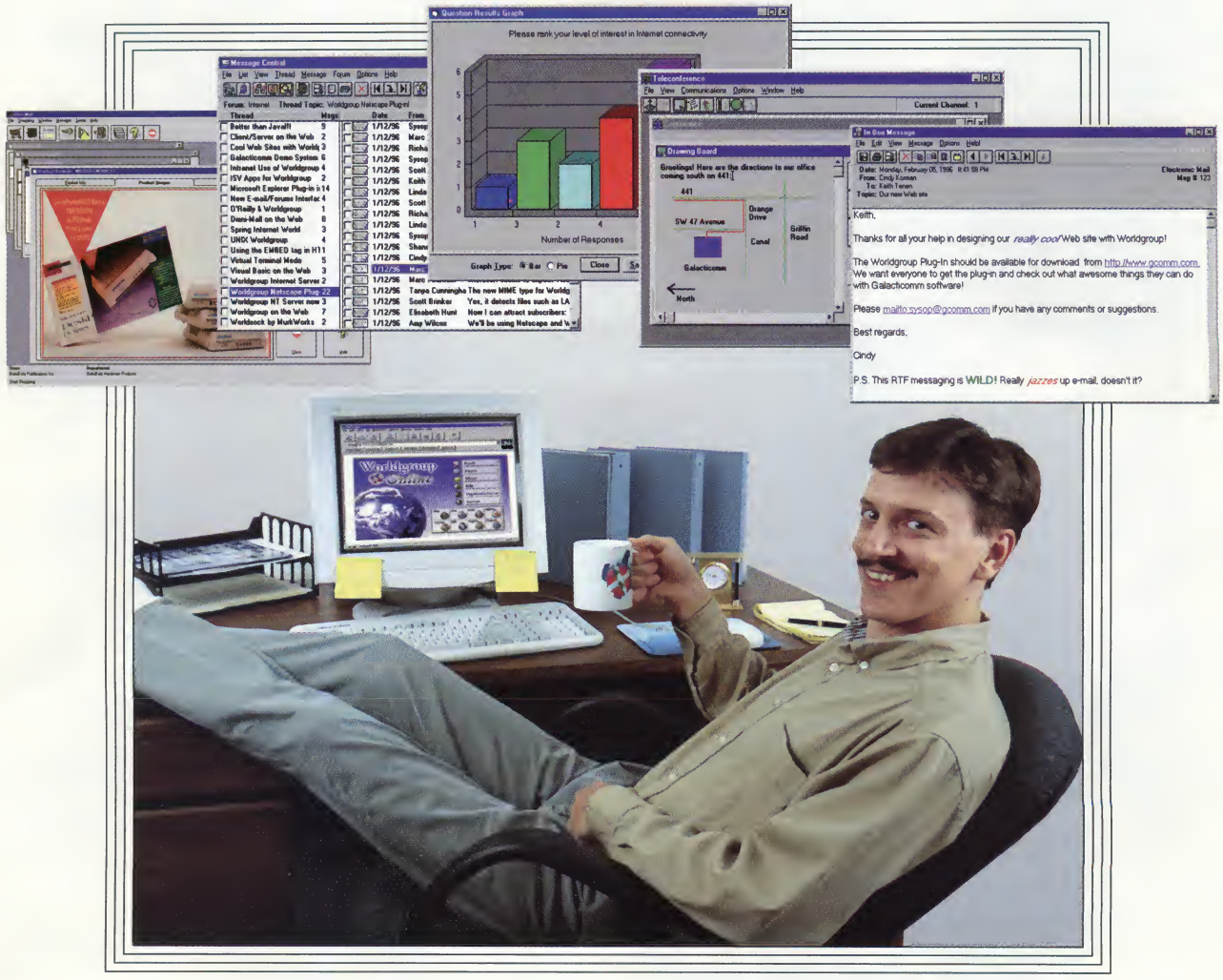
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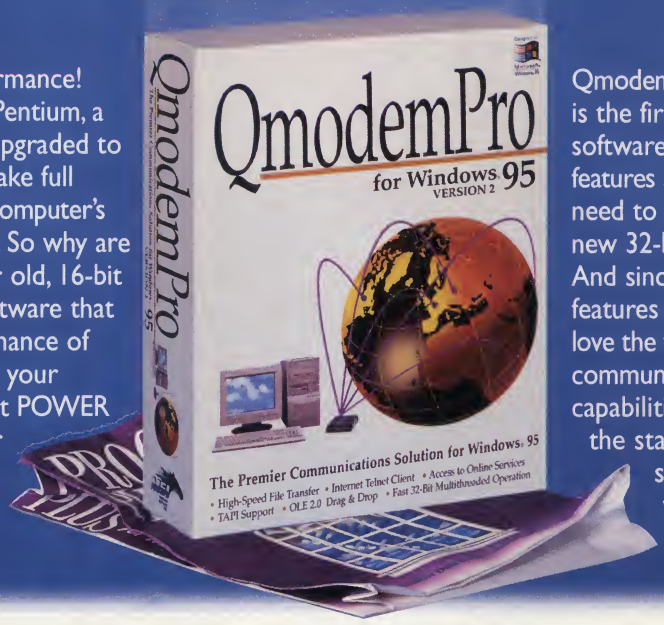
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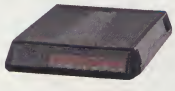
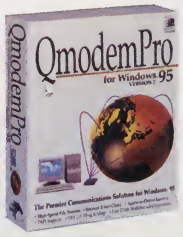
Designed for Microsoft Windows 95 +  = 

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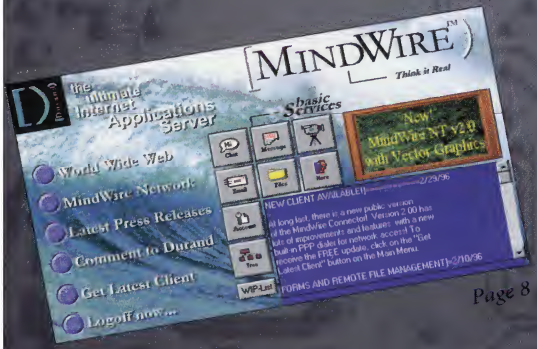

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Readme.txt

Winners All

Without contests we'd all be losers.

I don't recall who first spun this glass-half-empty bon mot, but the bright side does imply the contrary that with a contest or two, maybe some of us could call ourselves winners.

We've actually got 20 of them this month — winners, that is. And if I wore a hat, I'd tip it to them all.

But first I'd tip it to the over 400 "winners" (the complete bunch of BBSs taking part in the first ever Top 20 BBSs on the Net contest) whose callers and subscribers took time to vote and comment on their favorite Internet-accessible BBS.

Connecting a BBS to the Internet can be a difficult task (how's that for an "understatement of the year" contender). The fact that so many have actually pulled it off is testament to a lot of things — the resilience of this industry, the ingenuity of its developers, the perseverance of its players and the unending demands of its users. Bottom line: it works.

Callers say they want it, sysops get it. Many times this push-pull process comes at a significant price to the system operators — those who must invest today on the hope of a return tomorrow, however small.

That's one reason why we're giving callers (well, Netters) the opportunity to publicly thank their sysops for the work they've done, and to show off some of the cooler things their favorite boards have to offer. Sharing this sentiment I'm sure is Richard Mark, keeper/editor of the SBI List **(http://dkeep.com/sbi.htm)**, which served as the basis for the contest. He put in a lot of his own time just making sure the whole thing launched and landed without incident. Our thanks to him.

Since we're on the subject of Internet and BBSs, let me enter a curve into the lineup. You might not know it but for over 12 years an entire country has been able to securely access everything from movie tickets to history lessons over a desktop electronic device. There's no "computer" involved and they don't use the Internet — yet. Stumped? Jacqui Kramer *(Future Tense)* investigates and has the fascinating details on why we might not even need the Net.

Also revisiting our pages this month is Delilah, that "middle-aged maven of online advice" who recently published her own book *(Ask Delilah...About Cyberlove)*. We've asked her to give us an original sampling of some of the questions our readers and others have sought answers to. As usual she has obliged us with stimulating queries and informative responses.

And as always we've got our experts discussing the latest regarding the Web, Mac BBSing, shareware, Internet tips and a few rants and raves. Further, don't miss the most important pages: those with BBS access numbers and Telnet addresses.

Be sure to call them, and while you're there, thank the sysops for us.

Rick Robinson, editor@bbsmag.com

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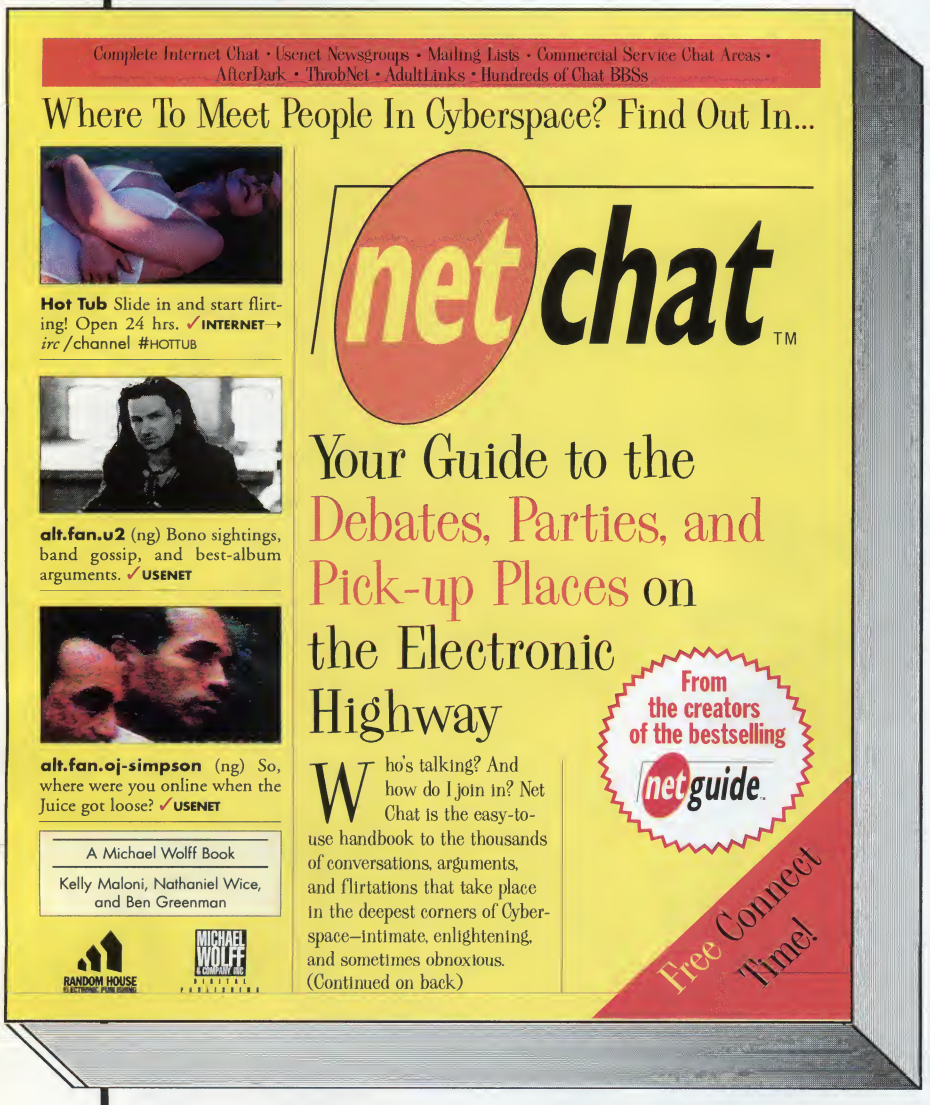
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Letters

Keep Reading, We'll Do the Feeding

Just thought that I would send you a little note to say how much I enjoy your magazine. You see I was browsing through the plethora of computer magazines the other day and I stumbled across BBS.

I must say, I'm usually not that drawn to computer mags, I mean they seem to be all the same, but something about BBS caught my attention and kept it, which is not that easy to do. Needless to say I practically read the entire February issue... I mean finally a magazine that I can understand. I don't know much about Java, or HTML, but I would like to, any suggestions on how I can expand my mind about all of this?

I am somewhat computer literate, but I want to feed my brain more, any suggestion please let me know!

JaeCrash@aol.com

Technical Sup-what?

Enjoyed your piece on "The Internet Grab" (March '96), but it should be pointed out that though the telcos may be getting into providership, they will still need significant staffs to maintain users. Are they going to want to pay for this? I think not. Instead, look for them to seek out current local providers to handle such things. Just my two cents.

E. Schaffer

It's in the Works

I like your magazine and used to read it a lot for the stories on other (BBS) users. As a BBSer I'd like to hear more about what they're doing online...Can you bring that section back or start a new one?

CharlieOne

Correspondence should be sent to letters@bbsmag.com. BBS Magazine reserves the right to edit letters for space, assuring room for all to be heard.

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News WIRE

Pile It On

The goal is simple: Get every available shareware, freeware and public domain file in existence and make them available at the click of the mouse.

The ambitious program is what makes up the World File Project from Milwaukee-based Exec-PC, long regarded as the largest BBS in the world.

The File Project on the Web makes available all files from the BBS (500,000 of them; through a high-speed link) and includes a conglomerate of substantial FTP and archive sites, as well as "hundreds of CDROM-based file collections."

And users can rapidly scan the whole database using the Hyperscan feature.

"Of course, with the constant proliferation of files and programs, this is one project that will never end," said Robert Mahoney, Project founder. It "will continue to grow with every passing day."

Already the collection ranges from Windows 95 applications to nature clip art. Surfers can access the files at **www.filepile.com** where a $15 gets them three months of access and $50 buys a year. Signup is via the page or voice - 414.789.4200.

Voice E-Mail: It's Hear to Play

It's not integrated into a BBS (yet), but one new tool from BONZI Software has the potential for making your virtual messaging quite a bit less virtual, and more like life.

Hear your email.

Instead of sending email the "old" way by typing out your thoughts, Voice E-mail lets you record a message and send it along with your photo as an email message. The recipient launches the free Voice E-Mail player and up comes the pic, out bellows the message.

An add-in for Netscape, Eudora, Prodigy, AOL, WinCIM, and Microsoft Mail, Voice E-mail integrates itself into the mailreader and launches with a mouse click. Currently the software's available only on the Windows side, but plans are being laid for other platforms.

What makes Voice E-Mail practical is its use of lossless compression (as opposed to the more common "lossy"), which enables the program to drop the size of an audio file significantly while retaining the same quality in which the sound was recorded. Separate compression technology is used for squeezing the images.

The Zipping Wizard

WinZip is back with version 6.1, and this time it's touting an optional "Wizard" interface that automates some of the more common tasks associated with handling Zip files — those files with the extension ".ZIP" that are made up of compressed programs, images, files...whatever.

The Wizard interface is targeted at novices and can take one through each step up unzipping or installing software from Zip files. Once you're up to speed on how things work, you can click out of the Wizard and take control of WinZip yourself.

For Windows 3.1 and 95, the software goes for $29. Previous registered users can download the upgrade at **www.winzip.com** or email **support@winzip.com** for more information.

For instance, roughly 45 seconds of speech and one nice quality image compresses to about 285K — not much in download time.

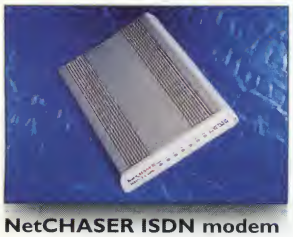
The decompression takes place automatically upon launching the Voice E-mail file.

We tested Voice E-Mail in the Eudora mail reader. When launched with the Voice E-Mail for Eudora icon, Eudora's toolbar adds an option for listening to voice messages and recording them. The recorder gives users the ability to toy with sound, too, creating reverbs, echoes, etc.

Voice E-Mail goes for $29.95 and includes the player and recording program — you supply the sound card and microphone. The free Voice E-Mail Player (which can only retrieve messages) can be downloaded from CompuServe and BONZI's Web site at **www.bonzi.com**. Fax them at 805.238.5798.

Chasing the ISDN Modem

"ISDN is coming." Seems we've been hearing that for years. Truth is it's already here (in some respects) and its promise of swift access to the Net will likely continue propelling it into even the smallest markets — given the cost for setup continues to slip.



NetCHASER ISDN modem

Getting ISDN requires several things, not the least of which is an ISDN modem (or terminal adapter to be specific). The latest of these is NetCHASER from Chase Research, and at $425 each the company is aiming for the home and remote office user.

Through data compression and channel bonding Chase says NetCHASER can connect at 128 Kbps and achieve interface speeds of up to 460.8 Kbps.

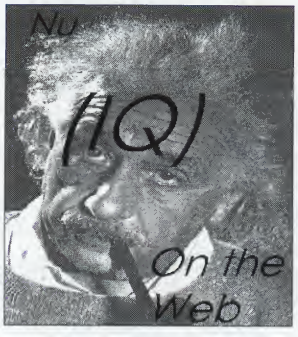
A nice feature of NetCHASER is its inclusion of two analog ports, which allows you to plug in regular modems, fax machines and telephones for the old fashioned connections — each can have a different number, too.

The product also has a built-in NT1 which lets you plug it into ISDN wall outlets; it is compatible with ISDN services from all the RBOCs.

Along with the modem comes trial Net access software and a voucher for the Chase IOXTRA 166550 add-in I/O board, which equips your PC for high-speed ISDN. NetCHASER is compatible with Apple, DOS and Windows (and Win95) operating systems.

For more information contact Chase at 800.242.7387/615.872.0770, or check the Web at **www.chaser.com**.

NuIQ/MurkWorks Launch 'Net BBS



The latest stride in BBSing via the Internet was made in March by a joint venture between NuIQ Software and MurkWorks, Inc.

Dubbed 'Net BBS, the $395 package includes MurkWorks' BBSNet for Netware software and NuIQ's Powerboard BBS four-line software.

The integration of the two products, says NuIQ, eliminates complex setups usually required in marrying a BBS to the Internet.

Once the setup is complete, Web/Internet browsers can type "telnet://" instead of "http://" to access the BBS.

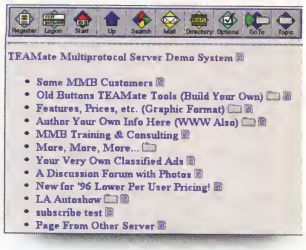
'Net BBS offers email, Usenet access, FTP, Gopher and, of course, Telnet.

For the uninitiated, this model will allow sysops to offer dial-up access as well as Telnet and give callers real-time chat, messaging and file exchanges.

Powerboard utilizes RIP graphics and supports the Windows Interface Protocol (WIP) for those slick graphics.

For more information, contact NuIQ at 800.844.6526. Or check the Web at **www.nuiq.com**.

TEAMate Update — Multi-Protocol Access


TEAMate Multiprotocol Server Demo System
Some MMB Customers
Old Buttons TEAMate Tools (Build Your Own)
Features, Prices, etc. (Graphic Format)
Author Your Own Info Here (WWW Also)
MMB Training & Consulting
More, More, More...
Your Very Own Classified Ads
A Discussion Forum with Photos
New for '96 Lower Per User Pricing!
LA Autoshow
subscribe test
Page From Other Server

In case you missed the announcement earlier this year, MMB Development Corporation released a significant upgrade in version 4.05 of its TEAMate server software that effectively turns an online site into a multi-protocol service.

Translation: TEAMate's information base can be accessed with all standard protocols — Web browser, a Windows, Mac or OS/2 GUI client, Gopher clients, character terminals (VT100) and Query-by-Mail.

Features include:

• Uploading directly to the server database with a standard Web browser — no more FTP — and uploads can be encrypted with PGP.

• The TEAMate Web server autogenerates HTML controls and content, striking the need for users to code custom HTML. Users can change the look and feel of the interface based on the kind of data being presented. Previously supported only in the GUI client, this use of multiple screen sets is now effectively employed on the Web.

• The GUI client supports Netscape for viewing HTML inside or outside the TEAMate server. And no TCP/IP connection is required if used with the client and regular dial-up.

• Webmasters can use TEAMate to control outgoing access to the Web, including the control of sites available to end-users.

• A new table data format has been added to the client software for more flexibility, and icons can be used inside the tables.

The server software for setting up an online service is available for Unix servers from SUN, IBM, DEC, HP and Intel.

The system, along with one week of training and a year of support and

CONTINUES...

upgrades, goes for $4,100. Other pricing options are available. For more information call 310.318.1322. Better yet, try it out at **http://mmb.com**.

Thinking Cable, Acting Local

It's called LineRunner and it may be coming to a neighborhood near you.

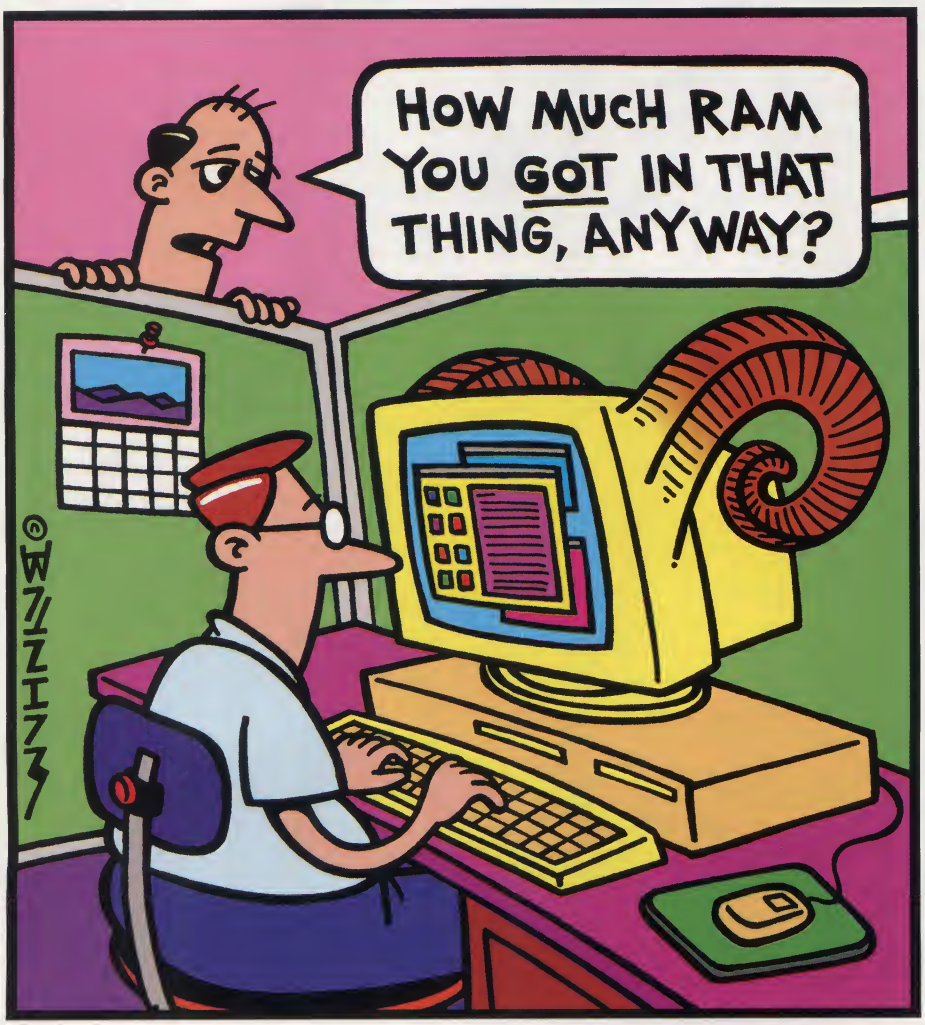
LineRunner, a broadband cable online service produced by The Excalibur Group (a joint venture of Time Inc. and Time-Warner Cable), is planned to deliver data to computers via fiber optic cable and cable modems in the home, at speeds in the megabit-per-second range.

"Because cable systems are defined by communities, LineRunner is community-based," said an early factoid from Time-Warner Cable, "carrying thousands of screens of content relating to local news, government, civic organizations, and businesses in each locality it serves." It also carries considerable content from Pathfinder **(www.pathfinder.com)**. As well, it provides a high-speed connection to the Internet and to conventional online services such as America Online.

The first LineRunner installation was a 500-subscriber market test in Elmira, New York, which began in July of last year. Based on the success of that test, Excalibur plans to roll LineRunner out to about five medium-sized cities this year — the Akron/Canton, Ohio area being the first.

For more information check Pathfinder.

Offline by John Baynham



Online Shopping Mall Checks Out of Beta

Galacticomm's Omni-Mall shopping system — the client/server application for its Worldgroup online software — has officially emerged from beta.

Omni-Mall joins other Worldgroup applications users can launch directly from a Web site using Netscape Navigator 2.0. Omni-Mall allows an organization to sell its own products online as well as offer retail space to other merchants.

"What Worlds Chat did for talking on the Web, Omni-Mall does for open market commerce," said Galacticomm President and CEO Scott Brinker, during beta testing. "Best of all, anyone can install Omni-Mall, import their products and be up and running on the Web with a few simple EMBED commands in their HTML files. The Worldgroup Plug-in takes care of all the user interface for you."

Omni-Mall maintains a database of stores, their departments and products; stores are created by the sysop, whereas departments and products can be created or added by either the store manager or the sysop. Image files (JPG, BMP, TIFF, PCX), sound (WAV) and unlimited-length text files can be associated with each product. These can be viewed online or downloaded for later use, which is ideal for companies selling information, graphics or software. Customers can browse the stores from their PCs, select products and then pay using a variety of payment options including American Express, Discover, MasterCard, Visa, COD, purchase order, and online credits. Payments are encrypted for added security. Omni-Mall can also fax orders and invoices from each store to a specified fax number when used in conjunction with

AT&T — The Net Deal

Amid rumblings from Internet service providers, AT&T has begun rolling out its Internet access program called AT&T WorldNet, including five free hours of access for one year and a specially branded Netscape Navigator.

The program also offers AT&T customers $19.95/month unlimited access — $4.95/month for three hours and $24.95/unlimited for non-AT&T customers.

AT&T said it is marketing the service to its 80 million residential customers and 10 million business users.

"Now every one of our consumer and business long-distance customers has an easy way to try the Internet," said Tom Evslin, vice president of AT&T WorldNet service.

At presstime the company was unable to provide *BBS Magazine* with a complete list of access numbers, though they say all are 28.8K.

AT&T can offer such a program, according to a New York Times report, because regional Bell companies must provide the free connections as a result of a 1983 FCC ruling exempting computer connections (AT&T pays the RBOCs big bucks in for local customers' voice calls).

Some have called AT&T's move a major blow to existing Internet providers. Others argue the real money in is in dedicated lines and the development of Web sites, not just in offering access.

These providers would also argue that the key to keeping customers is, of course, good service. Customers who are treated well on a personal basis will likely stay put rather than flee. For its part, AT&T says it has in place a 24-hour toll-free hot line "staffed by experts" to answer users' questions.

For more information call 800-WorldNet.

Galacticomm's optional Fax/Online add-on module.

Omni-Mall goes for $995 (including a Point of Sale dial module for real-time credit card processing). Those currently using the terminal mode version of Omni-Mall or Galacticomm's Shopping Mall can upgrade to the client/server version for $249 direct from Galacticomm. Omni-Mall is made available through an OEM agreement with DataSafe Publications, Inc. of Albuquerque, NM.

For more information, call 800.328.1128 (or 954-583-5990 outside the U.S. and Canada). Check the Web at **www.gcomm.com**. Demo BBS: 954.583.7808.

Durand Releases New MindWire Client

Durand Communications released in March the second version of its MindWire client software which integrates a built-in PPP/Internet dialer and automatic mail forwarding to a specified Internet email account.

The free client lets Net surfers connect to all public access MindWire NT systems, currently including online communities, gaming systems, real estate and others. Access is via Internet, LAN or direct modem dial-up; once connected callers can send email, chat with other users online (with pop-up images), search for information and download files in a graphical environment.

MindWire NT is a true 32-bit multithreaded Internet server intended to run on a Windows NT server. MindWire NT also offers tools to create and host an online information system including a built-in Web server. Sysops and businesses can customize their entire online service to fit their individual style/ theme with images, sound, text and Windows icons.

Download the client from Durand's Web site at www.durand.com. The software runs on Windows 3.1, 3.11, 95 and NT. For more information call Durand at 805.961.8700. For international sales and distribution inquiries email **bill@finelineintl.com**.

CONTINUES . . .

the ultimate Internet Applications Server
MINDWIRE™
Think it Real
basic services
World Wide Web
MindWire Network
Latest Press Releases
Comment to Durand
Get Latest Client
Logoff now...
New! MindWire NT v2.0 with Vector Graphics
NEW CLIENT AVAILABLE!]==========2/29/96
At long last, there is a new public version of the MindWire Connector! Version 2.00 has lots of improvements and features, with a new built-in PPP dialer for network access! To receive the FREE update, click on the "Get Latest Client" button on the Main Menu.
FORMS AND REMOTE FILE MANAGEMENT]=2/10/96
products
sales & support
developers
latest news
about durand

Top Ten Downloads from shareware.com

from February '96

Macintosh top 10

Rank	Title	Weeks on List	# of Downloads
1	arron1.13.sit.hqx	22	7102
2	vickombat4.1.sit.hqx	22	6921
3	Netscape2.0installer	2	6298
4	stuffitexpander3.52	22	5910
5	speed-bump-demo.hqx	3	5716
6	skydive1.0.cpt	20	4155
7	solitairetildawn2.1.	3	3793
8	stripmac3.03.sit.hqx	3	3516
9	3dscreamers1.0bd.sit	22	3496
10	luna.sit.hqx	3	3306

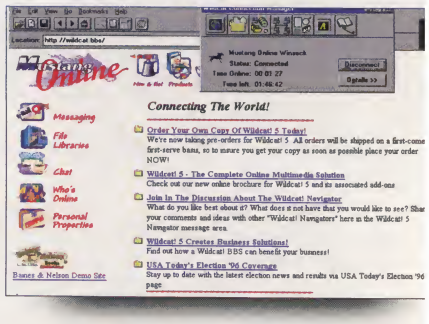
Windows 95

1	winzip95.exe	22	28534
2	s9511oe.zip	22	20852
3	logopak1.zip	22	16289
4	psp311.zip	22	13207
5	psp311.zip	22	13207
6	*sttheme.zip*	22	13162
7	format17.zip	9	9388
8	gtplay12.zip	4	9121
9	laddybud2.zip	22	7795
10	95mjong3.zip	22	7347

DOS

1	pkz204g.exe	22	3960
2	pkz204g.exe	22	3893
3	fp-221.zip	7	2860
4	scn-227e.zip	22	2461
5	ftp-list.zip	3	2309
6	sea11.zip	3	2010
7	gpv17a.zip	22	1710
8	cdqck120.zip	22	1203
9	modwks20.zip	22	938
10	champ5e.zip	3	433

Wildcat! 5 Web Server/Interactive BBS



Mustang Software began taking orders in March for its new Wildcat! 5 system, with plans to release the "versatile interactive solution" for corporate intranetters and Internet-based online communities by press time in April.

Mustang (Nasdaq: MSTG) said the interactive, multimedia 32-bit platform has been designed from the ground up to run under Windows NT/Windows 95, boasting email, public and private conferencing, threaded messaging, individual and group chat, file library access and the ability to travel out to Internet locations using the browser built into the Wildcat! Navigator front-end (in conjunction with the optional Internet Connectivity Package — ICP— which also allows Wildcat! 5 to function as a Web server).

Wildcat! 5, which has been test-run on over 1,000 gamma sites, offers connection through a LAN/WAN, by direct dial and Telnet with communication programs and terminal emulators, or through the free Wildcat! Navigator — a graphical Windows front-end that gives users the navigational ease of the popular Web browsers from Netscape, NetManage and Microsoft.

In addition to the browser, the Wildcat! Navigator also offers a suite of clients giving "point and click" access to the email and threaded messaging areas, public and private chat conference areas, file libraries and instant paging.

Mustang says security levels allow system managers and sysops to define exactly which files, messages and menu options to make accessible to each user. Standardizing page and menu setup with HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) gives users the ability to publish information once — on the Internet and intranet — without the need for time-consuming reformatting. And the optional wcExchange client allows users to receive email and message conferences (including Usenet with optional ICP) via the Microsoft Exchange in-box for email access directly from the desktop.

Options for Wildcat! 5 include the mentioned ICP, which supports inbound and outbound Telnet, FTP, and UUCP, as well as a Web server.

Also available will be 8- and 32-line upgrade packs, the wcExchange client, wcCODE Custom Online Development Engine for application development, wcReports for exporting data and usage statistics, and the Wildcat! Custom Connector, allowing Navigator customization with logo and graphics.

Prices begin at $149 for a two-line version; 16- and 32-line systems go for $349 and $699 respectively. The optional Internet Connectivity Package will be priced at $249.

To check it out, d-load the Wildcat! Navigator from **www.mustang.com**; Telnet to **bbs.mustang.com**; or, dial in to 805.873.2400.

For more info, call Mustang at 805.873.2500 or 800.999-9619.

Get a Job!

How to find one online Next Month in BBS Magazine

TOP 20 BB

It started as a notion, grew into a possibility, and finally became a reality. The world's very first and only Internet BBS Contest commenced on Nov. 1, 1995, and concluded on Feb. 15. Over 400 Internet-accessible BBSs competed on the Web to see who could gather the most votes by BBS users worldwide. Utilizing the "Guide to Select BBSs on the Internet" (also know as the "SBI List" at **http://dkeep.com/sbi.htm**) as the source for our contestants, 20 BBSs were ultimately selected as the most popular for 1996.

The contest itself received about 10 votes a day — not bad for a first stab at this — and we'd like to see several times that rate for the 1997 contest, which will run continuously throughout the remainder of this year.

This first Internet BBS contest would not have been successful or possible without a little help from our friends. To start, I have to thank my partner, Dragon, and my "home" BBS, Dragon Keep **(dkeep.comand http://www.dkeep.com)**, for hosting the SBI Web site **(http://dkeep.com/sbi.htm)**, and for contending with users and sysops from around the world just dropping by day and night to pick up the most recent SBI listing.

Concentric Research **(cris.com and http://www.cris.com)**, which has already done much to make the SBI list work on the WEB, once again contributed their CGI-scripting wizardry to make a Web-based voting booth. Many of the verification problems, such as duplicate voters, mass voting, and other "overzealous" voting strategies were skillfully avoided by a range of clever Concentric reporting techniques (shhhh...they're a secret).

I'd also like to add a special thanks to the users of Dragon Keep and Concentric Research for accepting our decision to disqualify both systems from the contest itself.

Of course the contest would not have happened at all without the constant encouragement of *BBS Magazine*, our inspiring contest co-sponsors.

My final thanks goes to the sysops of the over 400 BBSs hooked to the Internet. It's these hard-working individuals who have created the Internet's virtual communities: the villages, towns, and small cities, complete with rest stops, nightclubs, arcades, shopping malls, and libraries. It is the BBS sysop, often the lone hobbyist or entrepreneur, who realizes the Internet is just a highway, but a BBS is a destination.

The winners of this year's contest covered a surprising range of BBSs. From huge mega-chat MajorBBS systems like the 180-node Point Blank BBS (#1) in New York, to a small six-node Arizona Renegade BBS dedicated to the creative arts called Blastertronics (#16). The Top 20 even included the largest file warehouse on the Internet, Exec-PC (#11), who also has the distinction of being the largest BBS in the world, on or off the Internet.

The Top three winners — Point Blank, Nucleus Information Systems, and Anarchy-X — all share several characteristics in common. All three are MajorBBS or Worldgroup systems, all three are extremely interactive cybercommunities, and each has sysops the users can't seem to stop bragging about. In fact, if there is a lesson to be learned from these very successful BBSs, it may be this: A great BBS is more than the sum of its file areas, chat rooms, message bases, and online games; every "good" BBS has these in quantity. A truly "great" BBS instills a sense of place and belonging to its users, guided by a friendly, helpful, creative, and patient sysop. As the users of these Top 20 BBSs will attest, a great BBS isn't just a place you visit, it's where you live in cyberspace. It's home.

— Richard S. Mark

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Point Blank BBS, Ltd.

506 Route 110, Melville, NY 11747
Voice: 516.549.2165
Fax: 516.547.8426
BBS: 516.393.7200
Telnet: pointblank.com (204.117.211.3)
Web: www.pointblank.com
Software: MBBS/Worldgroup, Total Nodes: 150, Pay?: YES Login: NEW
Sysops: Joe Hureau (Snowdog), John Romano (zmmy), and Kathi Livornese (Pae).

Point Blank's Joe Romano (left), John Hureau and Kathi Livornese on the moon.

Point Blank BBS, Ltd. is a multi-faceted communications provider whose owners claim over 15 years of experience servicing and providing data solutions to the online community. Point Blank is Long Island's leading online entertainment center, offering callers over six gigabytes containing thousands of popular shareware titles, multi-user interactive games, a live teleconference chat system with full action commands, user meets, and weekly trivia with prizes.

Point Blank began its BBS days in 1992 as an eight-line basement hobby board. It has grown into a tremendous online entertainment and business system with over 150 phone lines run on Galacticomm's The MajorBBS/Worldgroup.

PB also supplies corporations with simple online solutions through the BBS and through its sister ISP, LI Internet Headquarters (LIHQ). LIHQ provides full Internet services including World-Wide Web advertising.

Point Blank's Internet interface offers simple menued access to the most popular Telnet, FTP and MUD sites, which makes "getting on to the information superhighway as simple as pressing a few keys," say the sysops. "Internet power users will appreciate having the ability to use Point Blank's PPP server to surf the Net."

Point Blank/LIHQ has one of the fastest connections to the Net, the sysops say, meaning FTP transfer will not be slowed down due to heavy local usage, nor will MUDing.

Point Blank, rated number 48 on Boardwatch magazine's Top 100 BBS contest, offers a free trial access for seven days.

Voter Comments:

Voter: micro@li.net
Great owners, good system, good users.

Voter: ajulius@aurora.liunet.edu
It offers an extremely friendly atmosphere, and is an excellent place to chat, make friends, and to meet people.

Voter: cygnus@pointblank.com
They have great chat forums, keep up on shareware, and are hardly ever down. They're what an Internet BBS should be.

Voter: jaguar@expressways.com
It has everything I ever wanted a BBS to have.

Voter: ack4@acpub.duke.edu
I've been with them for years, since they were a eight-line local BBS, and I've found that the people on the system are fun, and the sysops are constantly working to improve the system.

Voter: st942225@pip.cc.brandeis.edu
The chat is incredible, the games are awesome, the Internet is cheap, the sysops are friendly (as is the staff). Nice selection of forums, an all around good time!

Voter: celso13@futures.wharton.upenn.edu
Point Blank is a great place to log on, chat, and relax. The users and staff are friendly and fun to talk to.

Voter: sputnik@pb.net
There's always someone there...familiar names and faces abound. It's a warm atmosphere.

Voter: dstemnock@pb.net
I am a new user of Internet...They don't make me feel silly for asking questions that would seem foolish to experienced Internet users.

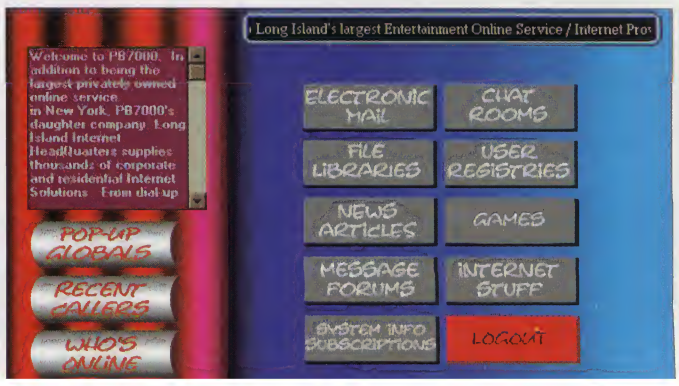
Voter: uasv12b@prodigy.com
Has lots of open lines, great chat facilities good files etc.

Voter: hughesj@is.nyu.edu
Pointblank is my favorite BBS because it has email chat rooms and cool games. The sysops are the greatest and really nice.

Voter: jaefron@vassar.edu
I've been a user on Point Blank for over two years.. it's always been a second home to me.

Voter: bd80606@binghamton.edu
It's never busy because there are so many lines, there are always people I know. The Sysops are beyond friendly. It's a great place to get away from things.

Voter: MichaelT77@aol.com
The people are great, the mix is fantastic!


Long Island's largest Entertainment Online Service / Internet Prov
Welcome to PB7000. In addition to being the largest privately owned online service in New York, PB7000's daughter company Long Island Internet HeadQuarters supplies thousands of corporate and residential Internet Solutions From dial-up
POP-UP GLOBALS
RECENT CALLERS
WHO'S ONLINE
ELECTRONIC MAIL
CHAT ROOMS
FILE LIBRARIES
USER REGISTRIES
NEWS ARTICLES
GAMES
MESSAGE FORUMS
INTERNET STUFF
SYSTEM INFO SUBSCRIPTIONS
LOGOUT

Nucleus Information Service

1835B 10 Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
T3C 0K2
Voice: 403.541.9470
Fax: 403.541.9474
BBS: 403.541.9400
Telnet: nis.nucleus.com
Web: www.nucleus.com
Software: MBBS, Total Nodes: 100, Pay?: YES, Login: NE
Sysops: Dave Berzins, President, Jim Hribnak, Manager Communication Services, Mark McDonald, Technical Support Manager, Cheryl McDonald, Business Development Manager.

Nucleus opened its doors in mid-1990 with just one line and a good idea. Dave Berzins and Jim Hribnak, Nucleus Inc. founders, made it their goal to make Nucleus one of the biggest and best BBSs in western Canada. "After a few years of growing, it was evident that we could no longer keep the BBS a hobby," said Berzins, "and had to get serious about running it as a business."

(From left) Mark, Cheryl, Dave and Jim.

Hribnak quit his job, took a pay cut, and became the first-full time employee of Nucleus. With a great attitude and a bunch of great users, the sysops say, Nucleus began to flourish beyond anything they could have imagined. Dial-in lines were soon increased to eight, then to 15.

"As time passed, users started to flock to Nucleus in droves, and the dial-in lines steadily increased from 25 to 50, 65, 80, then eventually to the 100 lines the system carries today.

With Nucleus on the rise in the Calgary area, and with the Internet coming of age, it became clear they had to be a part of it. Thus, in 1993 Nucleus became the first Internet Service Provider in the Calgary area.

"Adding Internet services at that time was a chore," said Berzins, "but the end result was a system that could be reached by millions of people over the Internet, and a complete Internet package for our dial in users."

After getting Internet service up and running, business skyrocketed for Nucleus with features like 24 CDROMs online. But so did the workload, so Cheryl and Mark McDonald — users of Nucleus at the time — became partners, bringing a wealth end-user knowledge and experience in technical and hardware support. The Nucleus of today, say the sysops, only resembles the Nucleus of old in two ways: "Great users and great times."

Voter Comments:

Voter: spyce@nucleus.com
The sysops are more than helpful getting started is a breeze.

Voter: allison@nucleus.com
It offers all forms of Internet, 100 dial in lines, conferences, online games... almost anything you could ask for. I've been on this board for nearly 3 years, and no (desire) in the future to leave.

Voter: vboao0f2@huey.csun.edu
Ease of features is very much appreciated. The online menus are easy to use and the features it presents are presented in a manner that can be easily understood, even by the novice user.

Voter: cherylm@nucleus.com
I have tried many BBS systems but none can compare to Nucleus. I have made a lot of great friends through this service!

Voter: Dani@nucleus.com
I am fairly new to the Internet and have found nucleus' BBS and Web page very useful in getting me started. They have links to great sites and the staff is really into providing an excellent service

Voter: fitz@nucleus.com
Good CDs online and very helpful people who are willing to answer questions and problems anytime. Lots of games and friendly meets where I get to know lots of users.

Voter: derekh@nucleus.com
The "Nuke," as it is affectionately referred to, provides a very broad and friendly range of services. It has a strong and loyal gaming crowd and is relatively stable (in BBS terms).

Voter: courtney@nucleus.com
Nice people. Excellent service at odd hours. Friendly. Very helpful. Cares about their customers.

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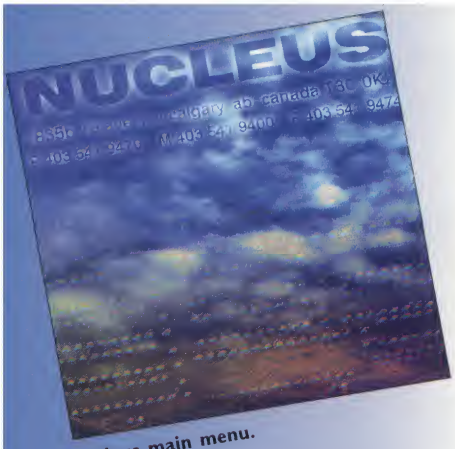
Nucleus Login screen.



Nucleus main menu.

Voter: johansen@nucleus.com
Great customer service for any problems. I have seen people take their computers in to them and have them set up their Internet connections.

Voter: steckley@nucleus.com
Very inexpensive and professionally operated system , full featured BBS and Internet provider.

Voter: LPhillips@CYBERStream.net
Internet access, chat forums, online games, Telnet access, Worldgroup manager access via Internet, etc.

Voter: Cooley@Nucleus.com
I think Nucleus is the best because it has full Inet access while still having conferences, online games, gamecon and access to Realms of Despair.

Voter: areiss@nucleus.com
I love Nucleus because the atmosphere is friendly and relaxed, yet the service offers a wide variety of services. I also love it because it's where I met my boyfriend rofl!

Voter: pmckenna@nucleus.com
Very good customer service, openness to new ideas, responsible community perspective and, at the same time, equal access and no censorship in appropriate channels.

Voter: rico@nucleus.com
I can't believe how helpful the staff @ nucleus are!! I've had to call for help several times, and have never waited more than five minutes for a reply.

Voter: srooke@freenet.calgary.ab.ca
Nucleus Information Service BBS has a friendly support staff ready to handle even the slightest problem with ease. The user environment is friendly, and everyone tries their hardest to include new users in BBS goings-on.

Voter: rmonreua@direct.ca
It has everything I need...from games, to chat, to files for downloading. The users as well as the sysops are friendly.

Voter: tbrigley@agt.net
TradeWars, friendly people, excellent sysops, new files. Everything a user needs.

Anarchy-X BBS

San Diego, CA
Voice: 619.264.5588
BBS: 619.264.8685
Telnet: bbs.ax.com (199.184.188.10)
Web: www.ax.com
Software: The MajorBBS, Total Nodes: 28, Pay?: YES, Login: NEW.
Sysops: Mark Weidinger, Brian Vogelsang, Josh Mercer, Paul Ferraro

"We started Anarchy-X as a hobby in October of 1991 out of frustration with the way other local BBSs were run," says sysop Brian Vogelsang. "We wanted to make AX a largely social system with meets, parties, activities, etc." They succeeded and today are a largely social system as well as recently becoming a full scale ISP. But what about that name? Vogelsang said Anarchy-X was taken from the album "Operation:Mindcrime" by the band Queensryche.

Anarchy-X BBS has since grown to be the largest BBS in San Diego County. AX went "live" on the Internet in January of 1995, expanding its Internet bandwidth to a T1.

"We offer PPP access, Unix shell accounts on SPARCservers, user and business Web pages," said Vogelsang, as well as "a full Usenet feed, anonymous and dropbox FTP, and even our own local MUD."

The board also carries multi-user TW2002, Doors, chat, Game Connection, Matchmaker, teleconference games and no ratios.

Voter Comments:

Voter: amoffitt@mindcrime.ax.com
Friendly owners, good Internet services, decent users, and it's inexpensive.

Voter: brian@qualcomm.com
Anarchy-X is an extremely social BBS. Meets, parties, events all make it one of the best places around to meet new people.

(Back row) Mark Weidinger, Brian Vogelsang, Josh Mercer and (front) Paul Ferraro.

Anarchy-X Internet connection.

Main menu.

Voter: trishm@bbs.ax.com
They have the best customer support out of any board that I have ever called. They have by far the best chat room that I have ever seen.

Voter: batman@bbs.ax.com
I like the prices. I like the sysops. I love the people!

Voter: g_chu@qualcomm.com
Reliable service and reasonable connection costs.

Voter: Canard@bbs.ax.com
Anarchy-X has one of the most friendly and supportive atmospheres I've ever encountered in the online community. AX also offers an incredible amount of services for a very reasonable price. What more could a BBSer want?

Voter: ccraig@ax.com
I get all my access through Anarchy X, which makes it both my provider and my local BBS. I have SLIP access to the Net, Web space on a SparcStation, local chat and multi-user games with 30 or more local folks at a time.

Voter: don.braunagel@sdcs.org
It's local and wide-ranging at the same time.

Voter: freak@adnc.com
They offer all the advantages of a local BBS and ISP. For the cost of membership, there's no better deal.

Voter: jhough@qualcomm.com
Anarchy-X BBS is definitely the coolest online hang out I've ever logged into.

Voter: Jlassen@mindcrime.ax.com
Great Internet service at an affordable price, and a great sense of community. 100-200 people show up for weekly meets and they support a "literary magazine" made up of poetry and prose. Also, I met my fiancee on AX.

Voter: t_miekom@qualcomm.com
It is an easy to use BBS that offers all the services I could ever want at a really good price. It has friendly users, great sysops, a real friendly, almost family type atmosphere.

Voter: pferraro@ax.com
I love it for the social aspect.. The user meets are super and the owners are the best!

Voter: phynex@connectnet.com
Many types of files, multi-chat. Throughput is better than most.

Voter: bryant@mindcrime.ax.com
It has the coolest group of users

Voter: tyw@mindcrime.ax.com
Simply put, this is my absolute favorite BBS because it has everything that I could want in an online system, from the variety of access levels that I can choose from, to the sense of family that I have with the other users online.

Voter: nnguyen@qualcomm.com
Great Internet service for a low cost. Friendly members. Social atmosphere and well maintained hardware and software.

CONTINUES...

TURN THE PAGE FOR THE REST OF THE BEST...

4 Interact

Location: Palo Alto, CA USA
BBS: 415.961.6911
Telnet: diversion.com (204.189.48.1)
Web: diversion.com
Software: TSX-BBS, Total Nodes: 32, Pay?: Optional
Login: Choose a name

Interact offers InterChat: Multiple rooms (public and private) with over 250 "actions"; InterPlay: MUD, Trade Wars 2002, LORD; interactive trivia room; IRC, Web, FTP; free Internet mail; and, no limits. "A fun and friendly group of adults (ages 18 and over only)."

5 Legends Online

Location: Lehighton, PA USA
BBS: 610.377.8115 / 610.377.6114
Telnet: legendsonl.com (204.186.4.1)
Web: legendsonl.com/index.htm
Software: Worldgroup, Total Nodes: 10, Pay?: YES
Login: NEW

A gaming-oriented BBS with online games such as MajorMUD, Crosswordz and other MUDs. 610 area code BBS list keeper. Free 30-day trial for all new users.

6 Rusty-N-Edie'S BBS

Location: Youngstown, OH USA
BBS: 216.726.2620 / 216.726.3628 / 216.726.3619
Telnet: rne.com (204.179.147.2)
Software: PCBoard 15.21, Total Nodes: 126, Pay?: YES
Login: Choose name

Rusty-N-Edie's is a massive system with over 18 gigs of files, 45 Doors and 126 nodes. The board collects all the shareware and freeware on the market for IBM, Windows and Mac, as well as a large adult section. The sysops describe their system as "The friendliest BBS in the world."

7 World Data Network BBS

Location: Reston, VA USA
BBS: 703.620.8900 / 301.654.2554
Telnet: wdn.com (198.232.144.1)
Web: www.wdn.com
Software: PCBoard 15.2, Total Nodes: 35, Pay?: YES
Login: Real name

Possibly the largest BBS in the Washington, DC area, WDN has been online since 1984. It offers Internet (T1), chat, conferences, games, CDs, and sales. Sysops are authorized PCBoard BBS resellers and installers. All modems are 28.8K.

8 (I)ndustry BBS

Location: New Baltimore, MI USA
BBS: 810.783.0150 / 810.783.0168 / 810.268.7060 / 810.566.6927
Telnet: industry-dm.com (204.157.46.2)
Web: http://www.industry-dm.com
Software: MBBS / Worldgroup, Total Nodes: 47, Pay?: YES
Login: NEW

(I)ndustry sysops say their goal is to provide a wide variety of online services at a reasonable rate. The system currently offers full Internet access, online chatting, a diverse file section (IBM/MAC/AMIGA), online games, and an adult file section. Awarded "The Best Online Service in Detroit 1995" by the local newspaper The Metro Times.

The sysops say they pride themselves on giving the best support online and top customer support offline.

9 Liquid Sky BBS

Location: Boulder, CO USA
BBS: 303.443.1692
Telnet: liquidsky.com (165.212.242.2)
Software: The MajorBBS, Total Nodes: 26, Pay?: YES
Login: NEW

Liquid Sky BBS is the 303 area code's largest entertainment oriented MBBS system. LS has multi-player Doom, Doom II, and Heretic. Callers also get multi-line chat, Worldlink (links 200 BBSs nightly), Interlink (links select BBSs 24 hours per day), CD-ROMs, outbound FTP, Telnet and Rlogin, trivia, TeleArena, and Mutants. The sysop says the board is known for it's very friendly atmosphere and friendly users.

10 Urbanite BBS

Location: Los Altos, CA USA
BBS: 415.528.6602 / 415.965.3956
Telnet: urbanite.com (204.71.182.2)
Web: www.urbanite.com/bbs.html
Software: Worldgroup, Total Nodes: 2, Pay?: Optional
Login: NEW

The Urbanite BBS is a high-energy, metropolitan BBS offering four-gigs of downloadable shareware; full Internet access; Game Connection for Doom, Heretic, and Descent; Interlink; and local chat areas. The Door games LORD, BRE and Planets are also online. Free access to Telnet-only callers by emailing the sysop upon arrival.

11 Exec-PC

Location: New Berlin, WI USA
BBS: 414.789.4210
Telnet: bbs.execpc.com (169.207.2.3)
Web: www.execpc.com
Software: Custom, Total Nodes: 300, Pay?: YES
Login: Real name

"The largest PC-Based BBS in the World." Huge file collections for numerous computer platforms and hundreds of local and relayed message areas. Online games and databases. Full Internet access free with subscription. PPP/SLIP accounts also available.

12 Multicom-4 BBS Network

Location: Rochester, NY USA
BBS: 716.473.4070 / 716.756-4300 / 716.756.4316
Telnet: multicom.org (199.190.113.3)
Web: multicom.org
Software: The MajorBBS, Total Nodes: 128, Pay?: NO
Login: NEW

Free gay/lesbian/bisexual BBS offering email, Telnet (in/out), FTP (out), Matchmaker database, personal home pages, multi-player online games, file areas, and AIDS Information. Subscribers also get a personal Unix shell account. Popular local only message bases, Teleconference, WorldLink Access 24 hours a day, private chat mode. Serving the G/L/B community since 1979.

13 Software Creations

Location: Clinton, MA USA
BBS: 508.368.7036 / 508.368.7139
Telnet: swcbbs.com (204.68.200.2)
Web: swcbbs.com
Software: PCBoard, Total Nodes: 134, Pay?: YES
Login: Real name

Software Creations is the "Home of the Authors" — the first release point for Apogee, ID Software, Impulse Games, ImagiSOFT, and hundreds of other top-quality shareware authors. If it's a quality shareware game, say the sysops, you will find it on Software Creations first. "If we don't have it online, it isn't worth having." Software Creations is the largest PCBoard in the world, and was voted the top BBS two years in a row by the readers of Boardwatch magazine. Internet access to all subscribers, Telnet, Fido, and local dialup lines via Sprint or BBS direct.

14 Another World™

Location: San Francisco CA USA
BBS dial-up: None
Telnet: awol.com (204.160.88.13)
Web: www.awol.com
Software: The MajorBBS, Total Nodes: 188, Pay?: Optional
Login: NEW

"Thirty-six CD-ROMs online with everything you're looking for." Huge chat sessions all day and night. Free system. Adult files, clothing and other novelties.

15 The Fix

Location: Kitchener, ON, Canada
BBS: 519.745.5527 / 519.372.0333 / 519.357.3615 / 519.240.0060
Telnet: the-fix.sos.on.ca (199.212.143.2)
Web: www.sos.on.ca
Software: Worldgroup / Major, Total Nodes: 80, Pay?: YES
Login: NEW

Full Internet provider with unlimited SLIP/PPP. Online games, huge teleconference and, say the sysops, "very current file libraries."

16 Blastertronics BBS

Location: Phoenix, AZ USA
BBS: 602.848.0395
Telnet: blast.neta.com (204.177.236.30)
Software: Renegade BBS, Total Nodes: 6, Pay?: NO
Login: NEW

Dedicated to the encouragement and pursuit of the creative arts, with many fine poets, writers and artists on the roster. Ongoing contests encourage participation. Door games include LORD, TradeWars and Land of Devastation. The message bases cover topics of various interests and the file banks include up to 2.5 gigs of files and four online CDROMs. "We never have and never will accept donations and we do not have any type of ratios on our BBS," the sysops assert. "All that we do ask is that users conduct themselves in a civil manner and participate in our message areas."

CONTINUES...

17 OS/2 Shareware BBS

BBS: 703.385.4325
Telnet: bbs.os2bbs.com (204.194.180.10)
Web: www.os2bbs.com
Software: Maximus, Total Nodes: 26, Pay?: Optional
Login: Real name

Catering to OS/2 users and developers, the system offers Internet access for subscribing callers. More than 10,500 OS/2-specific files for download, totaling over two gigabytes of data in 30 file areas. Special file areas supporting specific software vendors are also available. Full access given on first call with no ratios. 8,600 active callers from 33 countries, and currently taking over 36,000 calls a month. OS/2 is connected to five computer networks and carries 64 OS/2-related message conferences.

18 Aladdin's Palace BBS

Location: Victoria, BC, Canada
BBS: 604.953.1600 / 604.370.2533 / 604.743.1683 / 604.748.7321
Telnet: aladdin.bc.ca (204.174.112.253)
Web: www.guild.bc.ca
Software: The MajorBBS, Total Nodes: 86, Pay?: YES
Login: NEW

Full service BBS with 24 CDs, Interactive chat including ChatLink, dozens of multi-player games, Game Connection and online shopping mall. Full Internet service: SLIP, PPP and shell accounts. Free (non-commercial) Web pages for users, Telnet in and out, FTP and IRC.

19 Closer to Home BBS Systems

Location: Godwin Beach, QL Australia
BBS: +61-74-976-293
Telnet: closer2.brisnet.org.au (203.4.149.130)
Web: www.closer.brisnet.org.au
Software: Maximus 3.0, Total Nodes: 10, Pay?: Optional
Login: User name

"Largest bulletin board on the sunshine coast of Queensland, Australia." Sysops urge callers to "come for a visit and chat to the locals or grab some of the files available." Files include IBM (DOS, WIN, OS/2), Amiga and Atari. Several online games (all native OS/2).

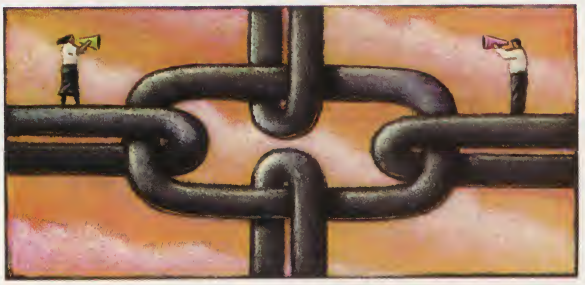
20 Isle-Net

Location: Middletown, NJ USA
BBS: 908.495.6996 / 908.495.4487
Telnet: islenet.com (206.205.84.2)
Web: www.islenet.com
Software: TBBS, Total Nodes: 16, Pay?: Optional
Login: Choose handle

Says "Future Sex" magazine, "...hosting sex chat for 10 years...admit the lust in your heart and other transgressions in confessions..." Discussions here include the ups and downs of meeting people in cyberspace and takes place in a smooth interface with several different ways to exchange public and private messages and access files, images, shareware and Usenet newsgroups. Isle-Net is also the home of Tarot44, the online card reader.

Richard S. Mark started the "Guide to Select BBSs" in November of '94 with only 25 systems. He makes his living as the System Administrator of a six-county WAN for the State Attorney's Office in Gainesville, Florida. In his spare time, he co-sysops Dragon Keep, a 64-node Internet BBS, writes magazine articles, and works on his upcoming "Internet BBS Book". "The book project is really the most important thing I'm working on. It will be the world's first and only travelogue of all Internet BBSs," Mark said.

Link Your BBS and the Internet with Internet Collection



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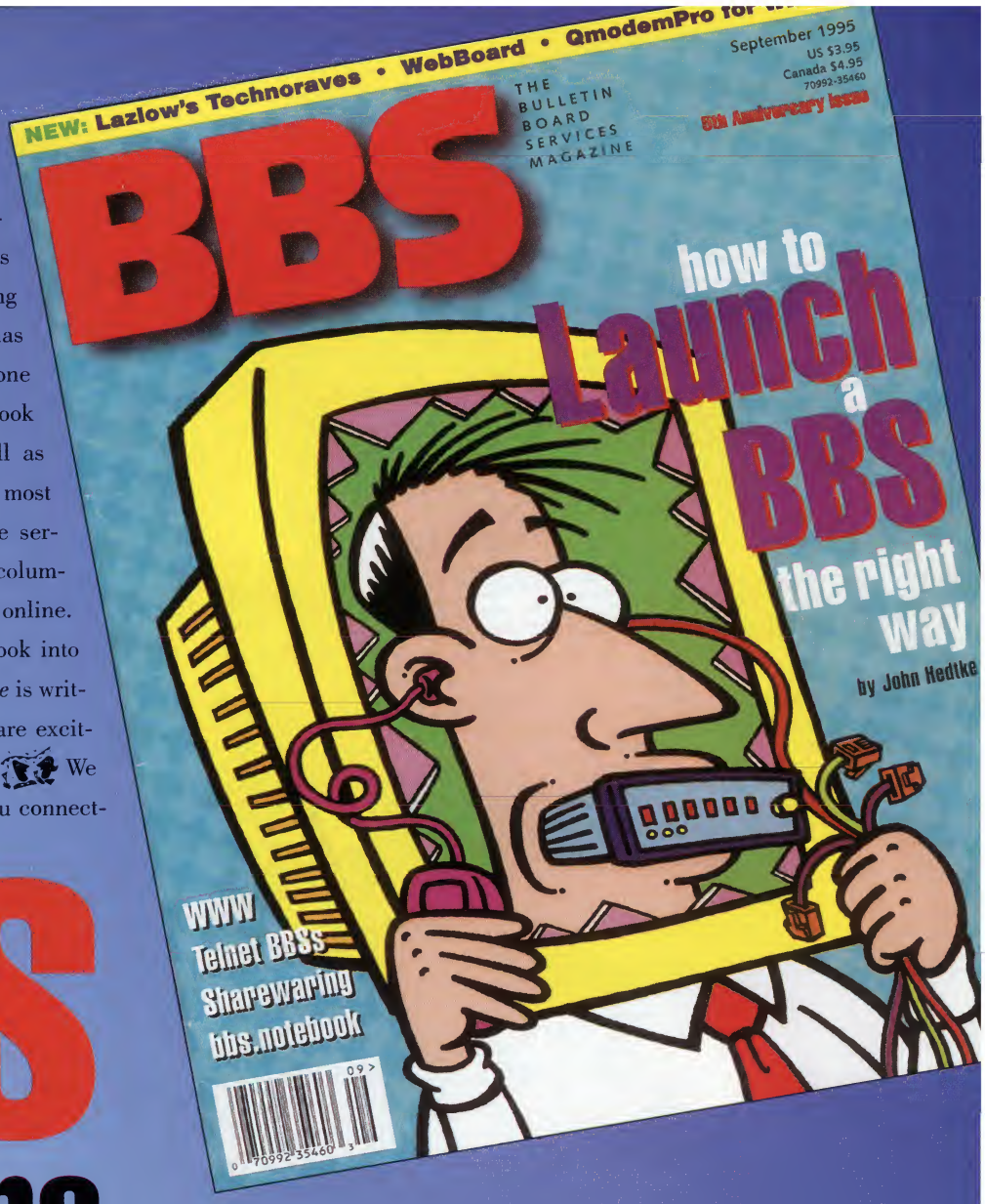
BBS Magazine is not only your ticket to the evolving information highway, it's also your road map. With features on the latest in bulletin board software, interviews with top industry insiders and news and reviews of everything making its way into cyberspace, *BBS Magazine* has become required offline reading for anyone getting online. Each month we look at the best and brightest BBSs, as well as those just getting started, and review the most informative books on BBSing and online services. Every issue features our expert columnists commenting on all aspects of life online. From the best deals on modems to our look into the Internet—it's all there. *BBS Magazine* is written for you, the BBS caller. The stories are exciting, informative and often entertaining. We won't waste your time, but we *will* get you connected.



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By Dave Kramer

The Battle Begins

Internet Explorer fires a shot over Netscape's bow

I have a confession to make. I'm a dyed-in-the-CPU Macintosh user. Not that I'm not Windows-savvy — I use Microsoft's top operating system almost every day. But I cannot characterize myself as much of a PC fan.

That's why I was so surprised when I finally booted up Uncle Bill's new Web browser, Internet Explorer, on my Mac. Turns out it's...it's not bad. In fact, it's quite good. (No, this is not a late April Fool's joke.)

You see, Internet Explorer supports nearly all of Netscape's tags (excluding frames, Java, and inline plug-ins like Shockwave), and it even includes some well conceived innovations, like sounds that play while a page is loading, colored table cells, and inline .AVI video.

If you ask me, the battle of the browsers has begun: There are now two distinct dialects within the World-Wide Web. And if you're a Web site designer, you'd better become bilingual.

If you don't already have a copy of the Internet Explorer browser, you can download it from Microsoft's Web site, at **www.microsoft.com/Windows/IE/IEXPLORER.HTM**.

Impersonating Netscape

Internet Explorer actually supports most Netscape-specific tags. It also supports the Spyglass standard for client-side imagemaps, which means this innovative technique for coding imagemaps is about to become ubiquitous.

Internet Explorer does at least one thing that's a bit unorthodox — it lets you spoof other browsers (like Netscape) so sites that automatically provide different content to different browsers will serve you just as if you're using Netscape Navigator. This can cause a little confusion; there was a small furor on the Net back in January when a prominent Web site administrator became convinced that a Java-enhanced version of Netscape for Macintosh had been released. (In reality, someone had used Explorer to create the phony agent log entries.)

It's good to know that Internet Explorer will deftly handle most Netscape-enhanced Web sites, since much of the Internet has adopted these tag sets. But Microsoft has built on this foundation, and some of the new features are worth trying out.

Sounding off

Back when Netscape was getting its start in the winter of 1994, a number of fledgling Web hackers publicly lamented the inability to create a "splash sound" that would load and play automatically when someone visited their Web page. Apparently, someone at Microsoft was listening, because this feature is present in Explorer's custom tag set. You can choose to play WAV or au sounds, or even a MIDI soundtrack.

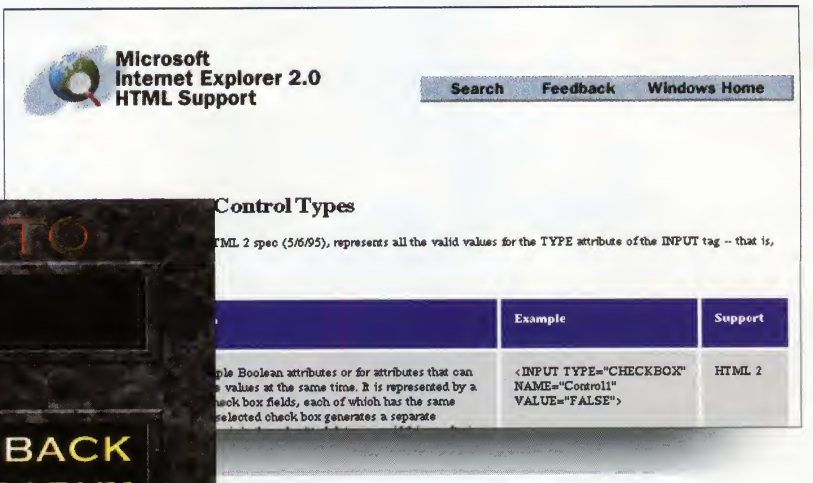
Although Explorer-enhanced commercial sites are still surprisingly rare, some personal pages make good use of the new extensions. For instance, University of North Texas student Keith Miller's MIDI-oriented Web site at **http://www.unt.edu/~kmiller/**, includes a full soundtrack that accompanies the loading of the home page.

The site also makes elegant use of what some have dubbed Microsoft's equivalent to Netscape's blink tag: the marquee.

Make your marquee

The big difference between Microsoft's marquee and the now infamous <blink> tag is that marquee is actually useful. It performs a task — scrolling text — that until recently required the use of Java to create as an inline feature for a Web page. In a way this is bad because every Joe and his dog will soon

have scrolling text on his home page, taking away from the gee whiz factor and lessening the impact of a marquee. But a well-designed page can make use of this feature — or leave it out. It's up to you. If you choose to include a marquee, there are a variety of attributes



you can use to customize its appearance.

Another cool new Microsoft extension is the ability to color or shade individual cells in a table. This can be used to draw attention to a particular place in a table, as part of a psychedelic Web page layout, or just to add some flair to an otherwise ordinary layout device.

Non-Microsoft browsers will just see an ordinary table (if they support tables, which most browsers these days do).

Internet Explorer also supports non-scrolling backgrounds, or watermarks, and the ability to adjust the top and left margins for text. You can also select the font you want users to see your text displayed in, and even pick various backup choices in case the user doesn't have your font installed on their system.

Further reading

If you're a Web site designer or want to be among the more techno-hip, you need to be up on the latest browser innovations. One of the best places I've found to do this is BrowserWatch, at **http://www.browserwatch.com/**. The innovative site will log your browser type when you visit, and it contains the absolute latest in news and gossip about new browser releases, plug-ins, and other related technology.

For a full listing of Internet Explorer supported tags, including examples of the new custom tags, visit **http://www.microsoft.com/windows/ie/ie20html.htm**. Even if you still plan to design for Netscape, you may want to include a few of Microsoft's little innovations — especially since other browsers will simply skip them (if they don't adopt them).

Oh, and if you're a Mac user, you should know that a Java Developers Kit — complete with applet viewer and some sample applets — is available from Sun Microsystems for free on the Net. (It's already offered for Windows 95/NT, and by the time you read this there may be a Windows 3.1 edition ready.) Visit **http://java.sun.com/JDK-1.0/** to download your copy today.

Overheard on the Net

"Subtlety is the art of saying exactly what you mean, and getting out of the way before it is understood."

By Lazlow Jones

Turn Off the Enlightenment

On fluorescent tubes, Web OD, and, of course, napping.

Without fail, at some time during an average week a co-worker will stop into my office to spew a stream of mindless chatter. They notice the fluorescent lights are off and that I am working via soft light from a desk lamp (and the glow of my computer) wherein they take it upon themselves to light the screaming tubes of fluorescence buzzing overhead. At this I usually gasp and cover my face, begging them to turn it off. Yes, I hate fluorescent lights. In fact the way I see it they mark the decline of Western civilization. Crazy? Push on, dear reader, and I shall explain why the lightbulb — not to mention the forever-loading Web page — are toxifying our souls.

The Internet is a beast that is now a lifestyle. When my cable goes out, it bothers me. When my Internet provider crashes, I am infuriated.

Must send email now...

Are you tired? Strung out? Look around and you will find the answer why.

You can start by blaming Thomas Edison, as he has forever changed our way of life. The light bulb made it possible for humanity to vanquish darkness, and, according to some studies, we are literally zombified as a result — we are wiped out, and sleeping 20 percent less than people 100 years ago did.

The human biological clock has been wound to an unbelievable tension. Scientists describe it as a permanent feeling of jet lag. The biological clock resets itself according to light levels, and has a great effect on circadian rhythms (these regulate the metabolism, body temperature, and secretions of hormones).

For our ancestors, the onset of darkness sharply curtailed many activities. With the onset of round-the-clock artificial daylight, there is an ever- present sense of urgency. This is where the Internet comes in.

The Internet and the computer are simply tools. As I type this column late at night, my Hardy Boys look-a-like editor is waiting to receive a piece of material via email. I can effectively work around the clock thanks to the Internet.

I asked a colleague what his biggest gripe about the Internet was and he said, simply, "No matter where I go, my work is there." This is a profound problem, and it is reflected in numerous television and print advertisements. Ad agencies are playing upon this angst. A gentleman pontificates how he is very in touch on the Web, surfing the Net, "I am cyberman!" he proclaims. "So why am I so out of touch?" The following scenes show him gleefully racing through gorgeous valleys in the car that has now set him free through consumption. Other ads show people in beautiful settings — by mountain streams, in fields of hay — happily click-clacking on their laptops.

A fellow journalist told me about her friend who writes for computer magazines. He became so fatigued from round-the-clock emailing and "cybersurfing" that he canceled all Internet access for two months, just to obtain a grasp on the insanity and gain a bit of peace.

Don't get me wrong. Love the computer. Love light for that matter. The Web is a great thing. However as I sit for what seems like days waiting for graphics-strewn pages to load, my rods and cones singe from staring at the screen. Monitors are poison.

A marketing executive at Panasonic recently told me that most monitors fry your eyes. For this reason, I want cable modem access. Bring on the gijillion meg-a-second pipe! I'm tired of staring at goofy garbage load on my computer at 2 a.m., especially since I've waited forever to see it.

The development of "intelligent agents" for the Web will hopefully extinguish some of this wasted Web use. I want the computer to find things for me that are interesting and intellectually stimulating — not increase my ratio of wasted time.

At a recent Internet expo, I visited the folks at www.ffly.com. This new service on the Web lets you design your intelligent agent and then it investigates all other members' agents. When it finds matches on favorite entertainment items (books, movies), it brings back a list of things you might also be interested in. Firefly also introduces you to other people with similar interests and allows you to chat (real time) with them.

This satisfies the hunger for a sense of community deprived by the boxy suburbs. (Hopefully the masses will realize that BBSs have always provided this sense of unity, and are now available on the Net.)

The Internet is a beast that is now a lifestyle. When my cable goes out, it bothers me. When my Internet provider crashes, I am infuriated. Must send email now. Some experts have said that the angst resulting from 24-hour "daylight" and the never-ending workday is unique to the Western lifestyle. Other cultures take siestas. When it becomes dark, the tools are laid to rest...Not ours.

According to MIT historian John Staudenmaier, the daily disappearance of the sun once lead to spending time in the evening on less urgent, more sensual matters. Now, after the sun goes down, we turn it on inside.

Regardless of the utility or the detriment of light emitted by the monitor or the overhead light, these have created a drastic affect on our lifestyles.

Scientists recommend that we go to bed at the same hour every night, even weekends, and get eight hours of sleep. Every time you turn on a light it effects your biological clock and will change your metabolism and sleep patterns.

With the aforementioned in mind, here some helpful tips on making the world a groovier place in which to live:

1 If a Web page takes to long to load, email the webmaster and explain how your biological clock is thrown into chaostrophy waiting for it to finish. Or use a text-based browser.

2 If an important project needs to be emailed immediately, send a quick note explaining how it is necessary for you to explore pre-enlightenment ideas of darkness and sensuality in order for efficiency to occur.

3 When in doubt, blame the tool! Remember that more relaxed cultures utilizing romance languages translate "I dropped the glass" as "the glass fell from me." It's not your fault. Period.

4 All non-work activities are now part of work. Leisure time spent pounding beers and watching TV is now "research." One must keep up on this changing world of ours! Watch cable! Surf the Net! Tell your boss you were doing research on "New Media Ventures," and want to make sure other companies aren't going to make as much money as your wonderful business will. And be sure to deduct your cable bill from your taxes.

5 Brainstorming is work, even if it falls under the domain of daydreaming. Invoice them for this.

6 A large bar/meal tab means "WEB PAGE DEVELOPMENT" on the expense report. Use capital letters. It communicates urgency.

7 You need to go to any computer conference possible to insure your company stays on top. Tell your boss how much you learned — be vague.

8 When in doubt, upgrade! "I can't possibly get any work done without a fast computer and a T-1 line."

9 Send lots of memos.

10 Edison took catnaps, you should too. Sleep at work. When the boss startles you, say, "I had the most brilliant idea on New Media ventures, and when you turned on those blasted fluorescent lights, I lost it."

Lazlow Jones writes and produces the Underground Technofile for the Underground Network, an alternative radio satellite network in New York. The Technofile is syndicated on over 47 stations nationwide. Email him at lazlow@undernet.com or check the Web at www.undernet.com.

bbs.notebook

By Steve Janas

To qualify for possible review in BBS Notebook, call The Livewire BBS at 609.235.5297. From the main menu, type ADDBBS and follow the prompts.

Tunanet

Sysops: Todd Heinz & Paul Guzyk
BBS Location: New York, N.Y.
Data Access #: 212.475.3100
BBS Software FirstClass v. 2.6

It is 2 a.m. in the East Village...

So goes the greeting that confronts visitors to the Web page that accompanies the cutely named Tunanet BBS. The time changes, of course, depending on when you actually call in, but somehow the middle of the night seems the most appropriate time to sample the off-center ruminations of the board's 600 or so members. Stop by and you can choose from a selection of conferences that range from current events to discussions of the best public lavatories in New York City. Or you can download a JPEG image of the Foo Fighters, Bjork or some musical act even more outside the pale of the pop cultural mainstream. Or you can chat, in either a public or a private chat room (the latter being a nice extra included in the FirstClass software on which the board runs).

Best of all, it's a Macintosh-based board (forgive me if my prejudices show). To be sure, you can get in using just about any terminal software, but your best bet is to get the client software (Mac or Windows) which comes pre-configured for you. Then call in to get the most out of the elegant simplicity of the client's GUI and the board's outre graphics, which look stunning when compared to many other boards out there.

Aside from being geared toward Mac users, the board is a good find for the fact that it provides full access, including an Internet email account, free of charge. The connection to the Net is made through the sysops' T1 line.

It's possible to do this, Todd says, because the board is only part of the sysops' business of providing SLIP/PPP accounts, for which there is a charge (the going rate of $20 per month for a personal account).

"We continue to run the BBS as a community service," Todd says. "Since we are trying to make money off the Internet, the BBS is an attempt to give something back, significant or not. Because of our business, it is not that big of a deal to keep the BBS up...At this point it sort of runs itself."

Besides running chats, the board has 15 message areas and 10 file areas, some "considerably more active than others," Todd says. Thematically, the conferences are a grab-bag, with titles that aren't always very illuminating (the title "Pavlovian Media" might wear its attitude of social commentary on its sleeve, but what do you think "Yumm!" or "The Apology File" might be about?).

What ties everything together is the mixture of wry worldview and entertainment/art focus that characterizes Manhattan's radical-chic East Village, where the board is located.

"Our board is not necessarily aimed towards anyone," Todd says. "I guess you could say it is sort of an experiment to see what happens when you set up a BBS and do not attempt to enforce any rules. Anyone has the option of setting up their own file or conference area. The content is less an extension of the sysops than of the users."

When you first log on, the screen you see presents a selection of five icons: Mailbox, Tunanet & You, Music, Open Bar and Directory. The Mailbox button is pretty self-explanatory; so is Music. Tunanet & You opens a directory of user-service functions (settings, help, etc.); Directory is a listing of all the file areas and conferences, and Open Bar is a smorgasbord of urbane conferences, which run the gamut from the self-consciously campy (the aforementioned bathroom talk) to higher-brow political discourse. It's kind of like sitting in on the conversations in the type of hip, downtown bar that doesn't advertise, because everyone who would go there already knows about it.

The file areas are blessedly full of the type of shareware (Stuffit, etc.) that Mac users want but can't get from most boards. Not to be exclusionary, the board offers Windows software as well.

Todd and Paul run the board from a pair of machines: a Macintosh IIx that acts as the BBS server, and a Quadra 630 for the UUCP connections. Together, the machines provide two gigs of disk space.

What is done with that storage space is mostly up to the users, Todd says.

"I guess what makes us unique is that we do not really ask anything from our users," he says. "Except maybe to upload files or respect the other users in the conferences."

Beyond Reality

Sysops: Paul Aljets & Mike Stoddard
BBS Location: Marion, IA
Data Access #: 319.373.5355
BBS Software: Synchronet v. 2.20

Beyond Reality, despite its name, is in fact a very down-to-Earth board with modest expectations and a fair idea of who its users are and what they want from a board.

Run from the basement of co-sysop Paul Aljets, the board occupies that middle ground between boards that are run strictly as hobbies and those run as businesses. Paul and Mike charge for full access, but most users don't pay it. The board offers limited Internet access, but the plan is to upgrade within the next eight months. At the moment, Paul and Mike have their feet in both worlds, but it appears they're committed enough to the board to want to see it grow.

Files don't seem to be the board's main stock-in-trade. The same can be said for chats: "With...several other large 'chat' BBSs in town, not many people chat here," Paul says. "For the most part we are used primarily for Doors and messaging."

The message areas contain a healthy mix of local postings and echoes from Fidonet and other networks. Four game Doors are available: there are role-playing games, including Usurperm Barren Realms Elite, Solar Realms Elite, Falcon's Eye and Mo's MUD. Another Door launches space-simulation games, including the ever-popular TradeWars, and behind yet another Door is the ubiquitous Legend of the Red Dragon.

"We have registered LORD," Paul says, "with over 45 of the add-ons to the game. We are also a member of a LORD-Net Network that links this BBS with over 30 other BBSs so as to play this game on an Inter-BBS format."

Full access to the board costs $30 for a year. What that gets you is 90 minutes of online time per day and unlimited downloads. But it's not like you're heavily penalized if you choose not to pay: in that circumstance, you get 60 minutes of time per day and five megs of free downloads. Of the board's approximately 250 users, about 20 have chosen to spring for full access, Paul says.

As for hardware, the system runs from a Novell Netware 4.1a FileServer system with 12 gigs of file storage. In addition, there is a CD-ROM drive equipped two seven-disk changers.

The nodes are run from a pair of 486 machines: a 486SX/25 with an overdrive chip, and a 486DX/33 that runs Microsoft's vaunted Windows '95.

The BBS software is Synchronet. "We chose Synchronet for it's multinode capabilities," Paul says, "as well as it's easily programmable interface."

There are currently no plans to upgrade the software any time soon, but Paul says the board will evolve into an Internet access provider, offering PPP accounts for as little as $15 per month. A good deal, but, frankly, a risky business decision in an age when behemoths like AT&T have decided to jump into Internet game. Still, you gotta wish them luck.

Up All Night

Sysop: Donna Rahn
BBS Location: Lebanon, PA
Data Access #: 717.273.6508
BBS Software: RoboBOARD FX v. 1.04

Up All Night is another free board that should appeal mainly to local callers. Sysop Donna Rahn has configured her board to favor files and Doors over message areas. So don't log on expecting to find a lot of meaty discourse (or even trivial discourse) with other members.

Since access is free, users should also not expect to log on and find a lot of Internet bells and whistles. "If I had Internet, I'd have to charge, and I want this to be a free board," Donna says.

Still, there are plenty of file areas to browse through, spread among 15 CD-ROMs (there are three CD-ROM changers online) and the 850-meg hard drive linked to the 486DX/33 that houses the system.

The files users can choose from include RIP graphics, utilities, painting programs, pictures and software from a company called T&J Software (the board bills itself as a beta testing site for them).

Probably the most interesting feature of the board is its selection of specialty Doors that launch some neat little surprises. A short list includes a database of federal jobs, an online Bible, a database of medical information, a database of legal information, a census Door; even an "All About Dogs" Door.

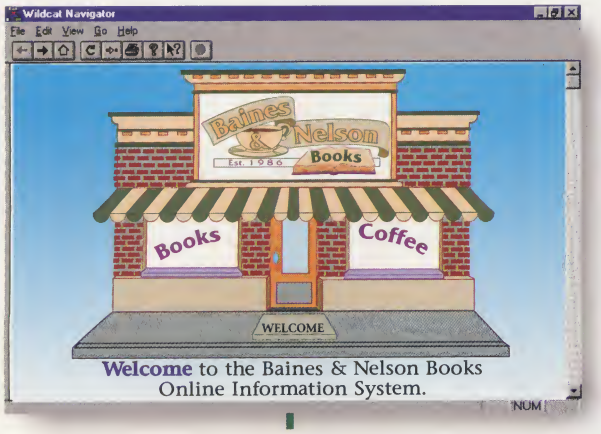
One Door launches a database of recipes. Fairly routine, right? Perhaps, but here's a neat feature: ask it to make you a meal and it will. Actually, it only plans a meal, but the ideas it has are good ones. For me, it suggested an entree of Spaghetti Primavera with vegetarian lasagna, Calabacita salad, Greek stuffed tomatoes and a peach cheese pie for desert. Yum. The only thing I was unsure about was the beverage: does anyone know what Glogg might be?

Another interesting Door (which I have seen before) launches a database of endangered species, from mammals to lichens. Select it, and it will choose a species at random, and then give you the species' vital stats. Pretty educational, I suppose.

And of course, there are the games, which include some adult titles. Some of the others you can choose include "Robo Lotto" and video poker (part of a "games of chance" Door), and video dodge ball.

The board appears interesting enough to attract a following of loyal users. And if I have one complaint,

CONTINUES...



Why settle for a you can have the

Open up to a new chapter in online systems: Wildcat! 5 for Windows 95/NT

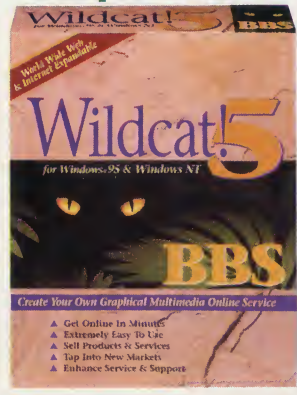
Customers can check an event schedule for book signings and other happenings using a custom system designed with wcCODE.

A moderated tele-conference system lets Baines and Nelson hold online question and answer sessions with local and celebrity authors.

Baines & Nelson created its own book reviews and links to book publisher Web pages right from Wildcat!

Customers can check Baines & Nelson's inventory and order products using the Wildcat! ODBC add-on.

Are you considering the World Wide Web for your online needs? Consider this. A web site is great for viewing documents, but your own online service can give you more. Messaging. File management. Interactive teleconferencing. Data security. Your own online community where members want to visit and come back again and again. But where do you turn to get your own online service?



Turn to the company that's been creating online software not for 10 months or 10 weeks, but 10 years: Mustang Software. Then open up to a new chapter in online systems with the power of Wildcat! 5 for Windows 95/NT. It's a 32-bit online information system that combines the browsing ease of the Web with the powerful features of a bulletin board: the ultimate information server. Wildcat! has the power to provide an online solution for nearly any type of business wanting to get on the information superhighway. ***See how our fictitious bookstore, Baines & Nelson, uses Wildcat! 5 to create its online presence.***

Wildcat! gives your members access to information through modem, LAN, WAN, and the Internet.

few pages when whole book!

With Wildcat! Baines & Nelson's customers can send and receive e-mail quickly and easily.

Message Conferences

Wildcat!'s message conferences are similar to forums found on the larger online services like CompuServe. Each conference can have its own message base, files, bulletins, questionnaires, display screens and menus.

File Management

You can make documents, spreadsheets, databases and other files available through Wildcat's file management system. Searching and retrieving are as easy as pointing and clicking on an icon.

Search Baines & Nelson's archives with the Wildcat! file management system.

Security

Wildcat! gives you the power to define exactly which files, messages, and menu options your members can access. It's ideal for supporting different departments, offices, and even entire companies.

Free Wildcat! Navigator

The free Wildcat! Navigator gives your members access to services through modem, LAN and the Internet. Its point and click operation lets members browse your online service by selecting hypertext regions and icons.

Baines & Nelson expanded its customer service lines to include 24-hour contact via e-mail and real-time access through Wildcat!'s chat system.

Teleconference/Chat

Wildcat's real-time teleconferencing provides an exciting way for members to interact one-on-one or in groups. Moderated chats give members an organized forum for group discussions or question and answer sessions.

Polls/Questionnaires

One of the best ways of gathering information is through Wildcat's questionnaire interface. It's powerful and flexible enough to quickly gather demographic and marketing information and even process online orders.

World Wide Web Interface

The key to Wildcat!'s ease of navigation is its use of hypertext markup language (HTML). This is the same language used to create pages on the World Wide Web. Future versions of Wildcat! will include support for full-motion video and Virtual Reality. With the Internet Connectivity Package, members will even be able to navigate the World Wide Web through your Wildcat! system.

Using the included HTML editor, Baines & Nelson easily creates news pages and bulletins to keep their customers up to date on bookstore news.

So why settle for a few pages? With a world of connectivity and powerful options at its disposal, Wildcat! is truly the online solution for your business. To experience the Baines and Nelson Book Store for yourself, download the Wildcat! Navigator from Mustang Online. You can reach us at telnet://bbs.mustang.com, http://bbs.mustang.com, ftp://bbs.mustang.com, or through modem at 805-873-2400. If you'd like to discover how Wildcat! is creating online solutions for companies, call our Solutions Office at 1-800-208-0616 for a free consultation.

Wildcat! 5 Add-ons:

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oddly enough that would be it. While it's great to see a sysop create a popular board, it can be frustrating when you're trying to get through the bottleneck and log on.

PC Picks

Sysop: Robert Pardi
BBS Location: Bronx, NY
Data Access #: 718.409.2798
BBS Software: Wildcat! v. 5.0

A major item of interest with PC Picks is the fact that it is a beta-testing site for Mustang Software's ultra-slick Wildcat's 5.0 software. If you're curious, you can log on and download the Wildcat Navigator as well, according to sysop Robert Pardi.

As for the board itself, it offers the usual mix of files and messages, with the emphasis on the latter. Chats and game Doors are available as well.

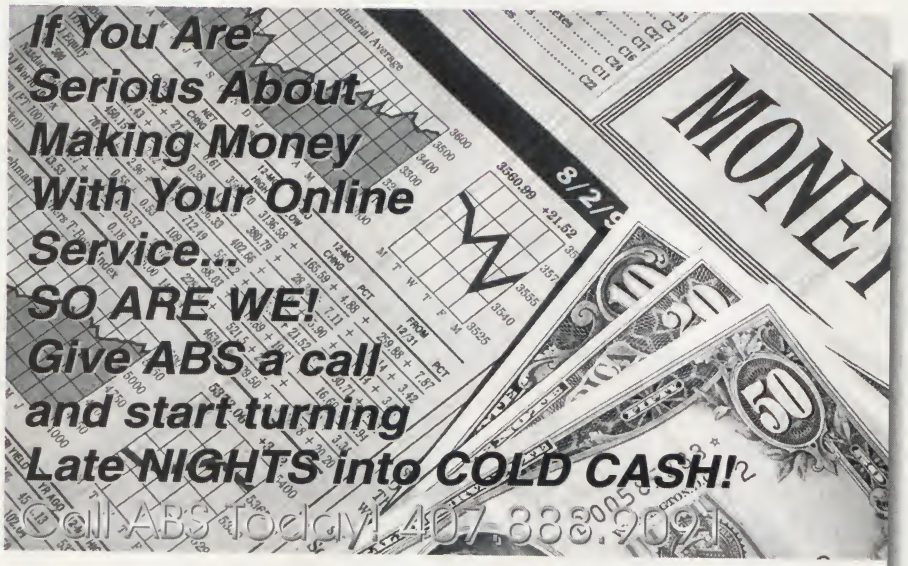
The board's eight message areas feature a light sprinkling of widely divergent topics. There is an IBM conference (the board runs from the Windows 95 operating system); a movie forum; a general public message area; and, a trolley forum.

Yes, a trolley forum. It's what it says it is: drop by, and you can sample conversation about rail cars of all kinds — trolleys, subways — what have you. One woman was touting a trolley museum in Connecticut; if you're into trains, you might be intrigued enough to stop in.

The 153 file areas are fairly comprehensive, and feature the usual selection of utilities (for both Windows and OS/2 — now there's a case of not playing favorites). In addition, there are games, RIP graphics, spreadsheets and other sundry shareware, FAQ's and more.

The game Doors make an attempt to be a little saucy: there's a game called Studs; a complementary game called Studettes, and strip poker (alone, with your computer. Hmmm). There are of course more conservative games, such as solitaire, etc.

Email appears to be available only to members. There is no word about Internet connectivity. But then there's no word about cost, either. So for the money — which is none — PC Picks appears to be a good deal, at least for local callers.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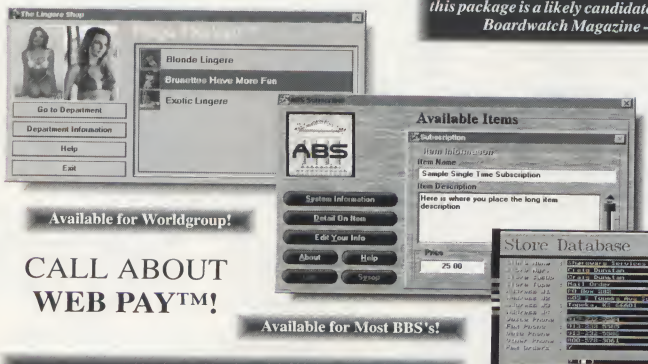
"If you want to be the Macys of the online world, this package is a likely candidate for your storefront." Boardwatch Magazine - October 1995



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BBS Magazine
(Painless) Reader Survey

1) I read BBS Magazine primarily for the latest on:

- ☐ BBSs
- ☐ BBS Software
- ☐ The World-Wide Web

Other: _____

2) I would like to read more about:

- ☐ BBSs
- ☐ BBS Software
- ☐ The World-Wide Web

Other: _____

3) I wish BBS Magazine would: (check each applicable)

- ☐ Publish a "monthly guide" to sites on the Web, categorized by subject
- ☐ Review more BBSs
- ☐ Give more details on how to connect by BBS to the Internet
- ☐ Just tell me how the heck to get my modem working

Other: _____

4) How about the callers? I'd like to read more about BBS callers:

- ☐ Absolutely
- ☐ Not!

5) Three years ago I was using (circle: BBSs / Internet / Telephone), today I spend most of my online time:

- ☐ Surfing BBSs via Telnet
- ☐ Dialing up BBS
- ☐ On the Web

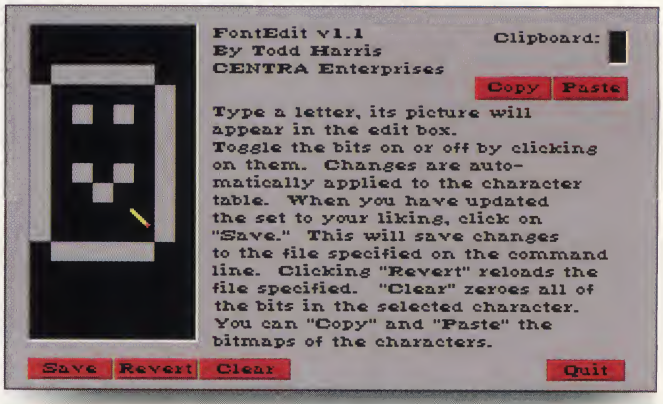
Other: _____

Please complete and fax back to 609.953.7961, mail to 701 Stokes Road, Medford, NJ 08055, or email responses to letters@bbsmag.com — remember to include question number.

By Maria Langer

Fetching Fonts

Are you a font maniac? You know what I mean — the kind of person who collects fonts from all over, all the time: legible text fonts, exotic display fonts, limited purpose headline fonts, dingbat fonts, picture fonts … you name it! If so, this month's for you. I've sought to assuage the appetite of all font maniacs out there. Not only will I tell you about some great shareware and freeware utilities to view and manage your ever-growing font collection, but I'll show you a few cool fonts you'll want to look for on your favorite BBS.


FontEdit v1.1
By Todd Harris
CENTRA Enterprises
Clipboard:
Copy
Paste
Type a letter, its picture will appear in the edit box. Toggle the bits on or off by clicking on them. Changes are automatically applied to the character table. When you have updated the set to your liking, click on "Save." This will save changes to the file specified on the command line. Clicking "Revert" reloads the file specified. "Clear" zeroes all of the bits in the selected character. You can "Copy" and "Paste" the bitmaps of the characters.
Save
Revert
Clear
Quit

Font Editor lets you change the appearance of the default DOS font.

DOS

Font Editor 2.4

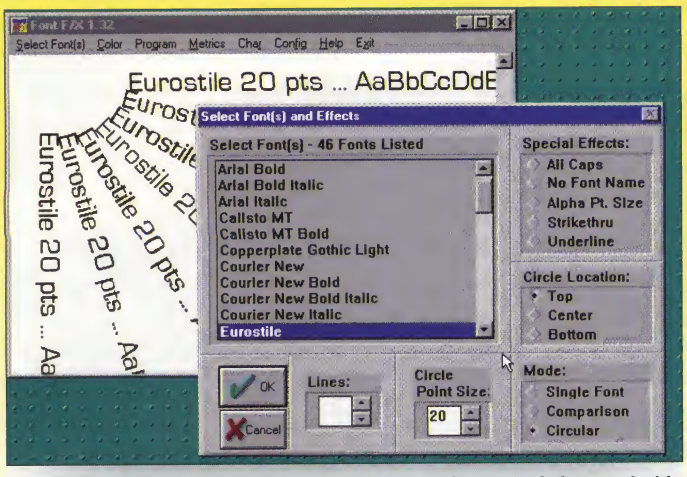
FE.ZIP
by Todd Harris
CENTRA Enterprises
3330 N. Jackson Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85719
Email: Jenor@aol.com

Font Editor is a program that lets you customize the DOS environment font. It consists of two programs: FONTEDIT.EXE, which is the editor, and FONT.COM, the font loader.

Use FONTEDIT to load a font for editing. If the font does not exist, the default font is loaded and changes are saved to the name you specify. Type the character you want to edit to have it appear on the editing palette. Then click to turn the pixels that make up the character on or off. By doing this, you can change the look of characters. A clipboard feature makes it possible to copy characters and then paste them into other character positions as templates.

When you're finished editing the font and have saved your changes, quit FONTEDIT and enter FONT /Fyourfont, replacing yourfont with the name of the font you modified. Your modified characters will be installed as the default font. If you decide you don't like the new font after all, you can also use FONT to restore the default font.

Font Editor comes with complete documentation that explains how to use it. It also includes a number of custom fonts created by the author. Font Editor is distributed as demoware — the version you download will only be able to edit uppercase characters. When you pay the $3 shareware fee, you receive the fully functional version via e-mail. If you want it on disk, pay an extra buck.



Font F/X lets you view installed fonts a variety of ways to help you decide which font is best for a specific application

Windows

Font F/X 1.32

FFX132.ZIP
by David W. Palmer
Bear Steel
5131 South Aleppo Drive
Tucson, AZ 85706

If you have trouble picking the perfect font for a specific application, Font F/X might just give you the information you need to help you decide. This Windows application lets you compare a font at different point sizes, compare multiple fonts at the same point size, and see what a font looks like at an angle.

Font F/X displays the name of a font, as well as the font size, in its typeface. Use the Select Font(s) option to display a dialog box that lists all installed fonts and lets you specify special effects, size, lines, and other options. If you choose one of the Circle Location options, Font F/X displays the selected font as a radiated circle, which shows the characters at various angles.

The Color option lets you specify a foreground and background color for screen display. Either click a color to select it or enter values in Red, Green, and Blue edit boxes to create a custom color. The Metrics option provides exact measurement information for the current font and size. If you don't like the characters that are displayed, you can use the Char option to specify a text string to appear after the font name — or instead of the font name. You can even use Font F/X as a front end for a font installation and removal program and for the Windows Character Map program.

Font F/X comes with a ReadMe file that provides basic information about the program, as well as detailed online help. It is distributed as shareware. Pay the $20 registration fee to get a registration code that removes the shareware reminders.

FontSpec Pro 7.1

FSP71.ZIP
by UniTech
2697 McKelvey Road
Maryland Heights, MO 63043

If you need more than just a basic tool to examine fonts, try FontSpec Pro. This full-featured Windows program lets you view, print, and manage both TrueType and PostScript fonts.

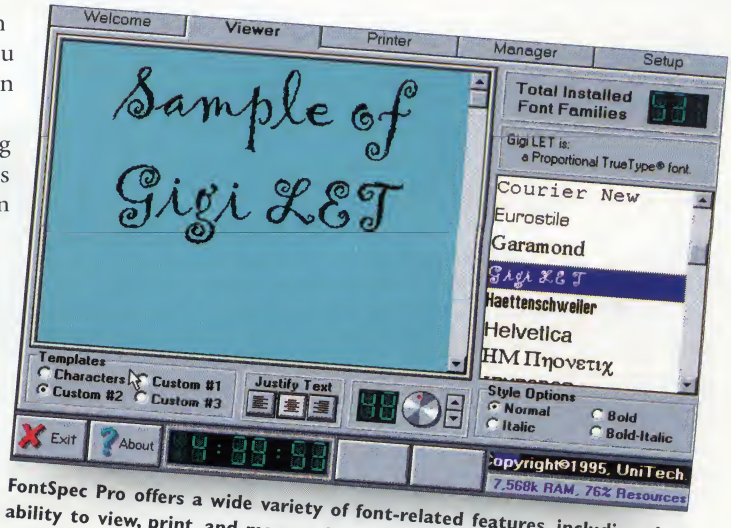
FontSpec Pro's Viewer screen lets you see a sample of customizable text in the font and size you specify. Font size can be from 6 to 99 points. The scrolling list of installed fonts displays each font in its own typeface, making it easier to find a specific font. Change the character template, justification, and style with a click of your mouse. To change the font size, use your mouse to turn a dial or click arrows beside the font size indicator.

If a printed font sample or specimen sheets is what you're after, FontSpec Pro has you covered. It offers templates for one column, two columns, full sheet, and keyboard layouts. You can specify what the sheet's sample text says, as well as the font, font size, and other settings. Print sample sheets on all fonts — even those that are not installed.

FontSpec Pro's font management features let you create font groups — collections of fonts often used together. Once created, you can install or uninstall any combination of font groups quickly and easily. This makes it convenient to keep only those fonts you really need installed, thus freeing up RAM and speeding up Windows. A preview feature lets you see what a font looks like before you install it. If you decide you don't want to keep it, you can delete it from Windows or your disk right from FontSpec Pro.

The program comes with complete documentation that explains how to install and use it while also describing all its features. Balloon Help (borrowed from the Macintosh operating system) displays an explanation of a control item when you point to it with your mouse. FontSpec Pro is distributed as shareware. Users who pay the $29 shareware fee get the current version (minus the shareware reminders) and some free fonts.

CONTINUES . . .



FontSpec Pro offers a wide variety of font-related features, including the ability to view, print, and manage fonts.

Three DOS/Windows Fonts

FilmStrip

FILMSTRT.ZIP
by Dennis Palumbo
104 Barrymore Boulevard, Dept. A1
Franklin Square, NY 11010

This interesting display font, which is available in both TrueType and type 1 formats, positions each character in the middle of a graphic that looks like a piece of film, complete with sprockets. Characters typed with the font look like they're on a continuous strip of film. The font is distributed as demoware — the file you download will include only a handful of uppercase, lowercase, number, symbol, and accent characters. The full font, which is sent to users who pay the $12 shareware fee, includes 211 characters.

Kelly

KELLY.ZIP
by Nick Lynch
164 Hatler Street
Fort Leonard Woods, MO 65473
Email: tonylynch@aol.com

Available in TrueType format, Kelly is a complete shareware font that includes normal, bold, italic, and bold italic character sets. It's a clean looking font with rounded edges that should look good in most point sizes. If you use it, pay the $5 shareware fee. Kelly's author also offers a font of your handwriting for only $25.

FilmStrip. (A Demo font that doesn't include all the characters.)
Kelly. Rounded corners, good at almost any size.
TQF Animals. Here are a few characters from this demo font:
TQF Electronics. Here are a few characters from this demo font:
TQF KeyCaps. Here are a few characters from this demo font:
TQF Plants. Here are a few characters from this demo font:

Here are the fonts in this month's Windows font sampler.

TQF Animals, TQF Electronics, TQF Keycaps 2, and TQF Plants

SY01SAMP.ZIP, SY02SAMP.ZIP, SY03SAMP.ZIP, and SY04SAMP.ZIP
by G. Bernor
9044 Bayou Drive
Tampa, FL 33635-5925

If picture fonts or dingbat characters are more your style, check out G. Bernor's offerings. I found his picture fonts for Animals, Electronics, Plants, and Keycaps, but he has at least six more. The fonts you download will be demos that include only some of the characters in the font, but when you pay the $1 shareware fee for a font, you'll get the full font via email. Or pay $7.50 to get the entire collection on disk.

Macintosh

Fonts Manager 1.5.8

by Ed Hopkins
Ad•vantage
1807 Prairie Star Lane
Round Rock, TX 42664-2618
Email: darth@apple.com

Fonts Manager uses an Extensions Manager-like interface to quickly install and uninstall fonts.

There are two main problems with having hundreds of fonts (or even dozens of them) installed in your system. One problem is that installed fonts increase the size of your Mac's System heap — that means they take up RAM as well as disk space. The other problem is that the more fonts that are installed, the longer font menus are.

Font management software helps solve both these problems by making it convenient to install only the fonts you need when you need them. Fonts Manager is a good example. It uses the same kind of interface as System 7.5's Extension Manager to let you create sets of fonts. When you want to load a specific set, simply open the Fonts Manager control panel, choose the set you want from the Sets pop-up menu, and close the window. Click a button to restart your Mac and you're all ready to go.

Like Extensions Manager, Fonts Manager maintains two folders for fonts. The Fonts folder, which is normally part of the System software, is where installed fonts go. The Fonts (Disabled) folder is where uninstalled fonts go. When you click the Fonts Manager close box after changing sets, it moves fonts from one folder to the other, thus installing or uninstalling them.

Fonts Manager offers a number of other useful features, like the ability to quickly open a font suitcase to view the fonts inside it. I wasn't thrilled with the look of its interface, which adds a lot of colors you wouldn't normally find in standard Macintosh control panel windows — but then again, I'm a purist when it comes to the Mac.

Fonts Manager comes with a ReadMe file that includes installation instructions and troubleshooting questions and answers. It requires System 7.5 or later (or System 7.1 with AppleScript 1.1 installed.) Fonts Manager is distributed as shareware — use it for up to 30 days before paying a $10 shareware fee. When you pay up, you get a registration code that removes the shareware reminder notice.

Fonts On Parade 1.0.1

by Bradley Lindauer
Email: blindauer@aol.com

If you're looking for a small, simple utility that'll quickly show you what the characters of an installed font look like, check out Fonts On Parade. This 18K application, which uses only 64K of RAM, lets you view any installed font at any font size or standard style.

Launch Fonts On Parade to get started. Then use commands under the Options menu to customize the display text, choose a font, a size, a style, and case. The Fonts On Parade window instantly displays the text with the settings you specified.

Fonts On Parade will run on just about any Mac with any version of the System software — it isn't picky. It's distributed as freeware, but the author loves getting email, so if you use it, drop him a line.

Three Mac Fonts for Your Collection

Blood of Dracula

by Brad Nelson
Brain Eaters Font Co.
1947 N. 180
W. Orem, UT 84057
Email: bradzig@aol.com

Blood of Dracula. Here's a font you might want to save for Hallowe'en.

Available in either PostScript Type 1 or TrueType formats, Blood of Dracula is only one of a dozen different fonts available from Brad Nelson and Brain Eaters Font Co. It reminds me of the titles on movie posters for horror flicks. Use at point sizes of at least 24 for best legibility. Blood of Dracula is distributed as shareware with a registration fee of $5. Other Brain Eaters fonts are either free or $5 each.

Drip

Email: FuzzBomb@aol.com

Drip. This casual font look like something you might find in a comic strip.

Available in TrueType format, Drip is a casual font that reminds me of characters drawn by a left-handed person. They're light on top and heavy on the bottom. Use at point sizes of at least 24 for best legibility. Distributed as freeware with no documentation at all.

Magdeburg

by Dave Nalle
Ragnarok Games
Scriptorium Font Library
P. O. Box 140333
Austin, TX 78714

Magdeburg. This font is ornate, but legible enough for serious use.

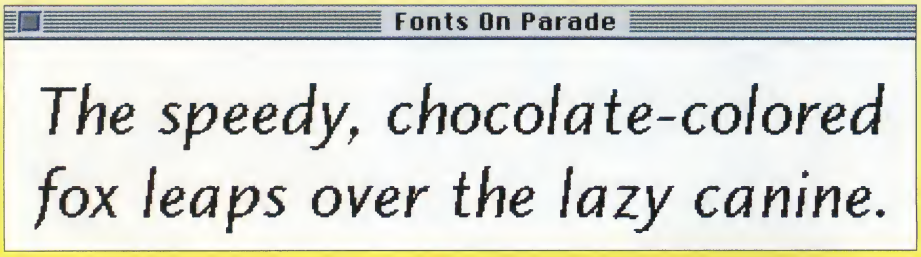
Magdeburg is only one of dozens of fonts designed by Dave Nalle for Ragnarok Games. Scriptorium fonts are original display fonts based on calligraphy, foreign languages, or decorative arts. Magdeburg is a relatively simple calligraphic font best used at large point sizes. It is distributed as shareware for $5, but $15 will get you a disk full of fonts, including Magdeburg. All Scriptorium fonts are available in both PostScript Type 1 and TrueType formats.

THese fonts are in this mont's Mac font sampler.

Finding These Files

If you can't find these files on your favorite BBS, try mine. The Electronic Pen BBS (201.767.6337) is a two-line FirstClass-based system in Harrington Park, NJ . Connect with the freely distributable FirstClass Client software for a great graphic user interface. Once online, look in the Sharewaring conference folder on your Desktop for all the files covered in this column.

If you're on the Web, you can FTP these files from the Giles Road Press Web site at **www./intac.com/~gilesrd/** and link to the Sharewaring page from there.



Fonts On Parade offers a basic way to view the characters of a font. Since it's RAM requirements are so small, you can leave it running in the background while you work.

Maria Langer is a freelance writer and computer consultant who has been running a BBS since 1989. She is the author of ten computer books, including the brand new PageMill for Macintosh: Visual QuickStart Guide *for Peachpit Press. Contact her at gilesrd@intac.com.*

By Michael A. Kuykendall

"Trouble" Callers!

They flame, leech and are generally disruptive — if that's problem, here's a solution

I'm speaking to sysops of all stripes today — Mac, PC, C128, you name it. The subject is as old BBSing itself and is an equal opportunity nuisance. It's ugly, sometimes hurtful, and can stand between you and lots of new (happy) subscribers. I'm talking about "troublesome callers."

If you're planning to run a BBS for any length of time, you can also plan on getting many callers who are simply not nice, stir up trouble, and, in short, make your life miserable. I always emphasize tolerance, and in no way suggest differences of opinion/debating be categorized as symptoms of a trouble caller. But sometimes things get in the way of others on the BBS who are just trying to use the system. Now it's a problem.

So how do you deal with these callers?

• **Admitting the Problem:** First, you must acknowledge that there are such things as troublesome callers — not difficult for anyone who's been a sysop for any length of time. But there are varying takes on the topic. For instance I attended a BBS convention where a panel of sysops who run very large BBSs discussed this very issue. However when the question was posed to one individual on the panel, he said, "There's no such thing as a troublesome caller." The other panelists clearly disagreed, but it just goes to show "troublesome" is sometimes a matter of perspective. The ball's in your court as it were so suffice it to say if you are able to recognize someone or something as a problem, it is.

Continues...

• **The Anonymous Rant:** What works for one individual may not be another's cup of tea. But with the anonymity that can occur on BBSs (people leaving false info such as a phony address, for instance) many individuals seem to have no problem telling you that your board "sucks." Anonymity brings a sense of bravado and feelings of "I know best." As a sysop you are going to get messages/feedback from users like this on occasion. I had one individual who flatly accused me of ripping off the community by charging for my board, that I should be ashamed to ask for membership dues. I proceeded to tell this person that the fees were not actually for me to pocket, but helped to offset costs like phone lines, buying new equipment for the board, and such. I also told the individual that I spent many hours of my own personal time running the board, helping people through the BBS, getting info and new files, and how much of my own money was invested, etc. This is a quick way to halt a complainer.

• **Getting Burned:** While this type of person may log on now and then, the most common type of trouble caller is the flamer. This is someone who publicly abuses another user in one of the message forums or online chat areas. With real-time chat, unless you or another co-sysop are actually online, it's hard to deal with this issue. Abusive messages are easier to catch and deal with if you have a moderator or two to patrol these areas; they can also help spark activity with new messages if discussions start to die down.

The easiest way to deal with this situation is to adopt a "non-abuse" policy for your board, and make all new users agree to the policy before they get full access. Simply put, the policy should state that if anyone is caught "verbally abusing" another user in any of the message areas, that user will have their access temporarily reduced. Further transgressions will result in that user being thrown off the board permanently. All of the major online services have some sort of "code of conduct" in their service agreements. (You didn't know you actually agreed to behave before you went online, did you?) When bumping a chronic trouble caller you can prorate the amount of the fees paid and send it back to them (or keep the money and state in your policy that they won't be getting it back if they abuse others on the board).

• **The Leech:** Another type of caller that some sysops consider troublesome is the "leech." This is a caller who, upon gaining access to your board, immediately heads for your file libraries and proceeds to try and suck every file off your BBS. While downloading a lot of files doesn't hurt your board — and hey, they're a paying customer — the time that leech uses keeps others from accessing the board.

One solution (though a little complicated) is to allow new users to have full access to everything but the files sections. They can list available files, but not download. Then ask the user to request a two-week trial access to get to the files. After two weeks, send them a form letter saying that their trial period is up, and that you would like them to join your board (include info on pricing). If the caller truly appreciates your board, they will sign up. If you can automate your host software to set up a two-week trial account automatically, then downgrade or delete the account after a fixed period of time (allow some time for a member's dues to come in), that would make things even easier. Disadvantages of this approach are the amount of tracking and editing of accounts you'll have to do and the possibility that potential users will be turned off by the process.

Another solution is to require an upload/download ratio. You give me one shareware file and I'll let you download 10.

Of course this is not a complete roundup of the kinds of "troublesome callers" you might face, but it should be a good start. If you have any stories of your own about troublesome callers you would like to share, please send them to me at the address below and I'll compile them for a future column.

By the way, graphics for this column are from CD-RON 2, a CD-ROM collection of 750+ great illustrations from Art Parts. Art Parts not only produces wonderful CDs, but has a monthly subscription service as well. Contact them at Art Parts, P.O. Box 2926, Orange, CA 92669-0926. Call them at 714.771.6754.

Michael A. Kuykendall can be reached through Macintosh Online at 770.822.5929, or his email addresses andykirk@eworld.com, or mosa3@mindspring.com.

Online Lexicon

ASCII — American Standard Code for Information Exchange. ASCII values are assigned by individual characters for every number, letter and symbol on a screen when logged into a BBS, for instance. Not much in the way of graphics here.

BAUD — Frequently this is used to refer to Bits Per Second (BPS), as in "My modem can send at 28,800 BPS." In truth, Baud is how swiftly a modem can change its tone to indicate a bit.

Beta — When a software product is "in beta," it is being tested by a few (or many) to find bugs (problems and shortfalls) in the programming. Most BBS software is run through extensive beta testing before release. Sometimes this can take months or longer.

Capture — When you're on a BBS and see something (other than a file) you want to save on your own computer, you can capture it to a file in different ways, depending on the BBS.

Chatting — A popular method of communication on BBSs. The idea is to type in real-time (no delay) to another person or many others who are on the BBS with you.

Download (Upload) — OK, these are pretty self-explanatory. When you're downloading, your computer is receiving information from a BBS. When you're uploading, your computer is sending. Simple.

Door — Think of it as just that — a doorway to another area in a BBS, often some kind of game you can play while maintaining your connection to the BBS.

Fidonet — This is an international "network" of BBSs. Fidonet news is exchanged among the BBSs so local BBS callers can read messages from and communicate with people all over the world.

Flame — If it burns, it's probably a flame. These are messages we all get now and then that are angry in nature and tend toward putting us in our place. Often, though, they're just a nuisance not to be taken too seriously (unless you deserve it).

Kill — Well, in the BBS world it just means to delete something: a file or message.

Megabyte — A megabyte, or meg, is 1,048,576 bytes, but usually referred to as a million bytes for simplicity.

Page — When you want to talk to the "sysop" (the person known as the system operator) of a BBS, you can page him or her and if they're in front of the BBS, a sound will alert them to you. You can usually expect a reply. No reply? Look around on the Main Menu of the BBS for something that refers to "Commenting to Sysop" and send a note that way. Try going easy on the paging, as sysops are usually very busy.

Prompt — When you're on a BBS and a command appears on the screen telling you to "Enter Password," for instance, that's a prompt.

Shareware — A mainstay of BBSing. Shareware is software that's released by the author for you to use free of charge. BUT, if you like it and/or use it beyond the period of time stated in the program, pay the author's fee. It's usually pretty modest and gets you free upgrades down the road. Plus, you'll be helping someone continue making software that ultimately makes your life easier, or a little more fun. See the beauty in it? Now how about shareware cars?

By Rich Santalesa

Finding Virtually Any

If you GOTTA search,

I love introducing people to the Internet for the first time — especially the Web. Maybe it's a Zen beginner's mind thing, or maybe I'm just jaded by my T-1 and ISDN, but it's amazing to watch a kid's eyes bug-out at by the possibilities that suddenly flood into their craniums. Though after touring a few choice pages, the question always come up, "How can I find <fill in the blank with your favorite topic>?" Step into my search engine, kid.

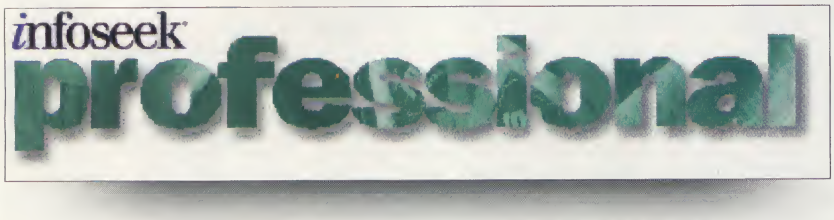
Dave Kramer covered searching tools in his Webwise column last month, but I'm going to take things a little further, with a nod to all those newbies out there.

Finding info on the Internet is still dramatically harder than popping down to your local library and asking Mrs. Crabtree for a book on polymers and their uses.

There is no Internet card catalog. The closest thing we have are search engines, such as Lycos **(http://www.lycos.com)**, Yahoo **(http://www.yahoo.com)**, DEC's awesome Alta Vista **(http://www.altavista.digital.com)**, Infoseek **(http://www.infoseek.com)**, Excite **(http://www.excite.com)**, and others.

Fittingly enough, search engines for the Web are powered by spiders, which are basically programs that scurry up and down the silken threads between links to locate pages and Web sites. These spiders return URLs and indexes of the visited pages, which are then placed into a database that in turn runs behind the search engine's Web page interface.

Sounds complicated. It really isn't. What is complicated, though, is using a search engine like a finely honed scalpel to pinpoint the specific info you want and not some guy's home page about turnips.



The Boolean Boogie

Though each search engine site valiantly attempts to make finding relevant info as easy as possible — generally by offering pre-chewed categories — fishing the Web like an expert requires knowing a few Boolean operators. Boolean operators aren't Croatian phone company workers. Rather, they're a means of defining sets of information — remember those Venn diagrams from high school? No? Don't worry.

The primary Boolean operators you'll need are AND, OR and NOT. Starting to sound familiar? The trick is understanding how each one works and how each search engine handles them. Each one by itself is

thingOn the Net

you GOTTA know how...

simple to understand and simple to use.

It's when you start serving up combinations of operators that things can get hairy. But if you remember the old SchoolHouse Rock episode, Conjunction Junction, you'll be slinging Boolean around like soggy old conjunctions in no time.

Let's start with NOT and get it out of the way since it's likely to be the one you use least at first. Expert searchers will tell you that NOT is the most powerful Boolean. But NOT only takes on its fantastic superhero powers when used with other operators.

By itself NOT is real easy but not all that helpful. Whatever search term you enter, adding NOT in front means "find everything but documents containing the following." For instance, to find documents that absolutely do not reference the word "munkins" you could enter: "NOT munkins." But this returns every other document, and in the case of the Web, that's a whole lot of pages.

While NOT is strictly a yes or no operation, AND and OR obviously offer more exclusive choices, and in doing so they narrow down and focus information.

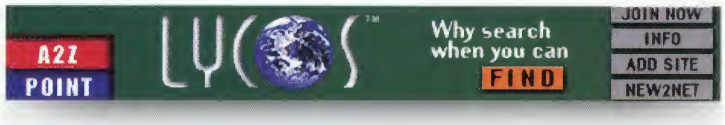
In the case of OR you'll be served with documents that contain either of the search terms. For example, the search Boolean, "Pumpkins OR Peaches", returns pages containing either item. For its part, the search operator AND is the most defining. Use AND to get documents that include both terms. A search for "Peas AND carrots" yields pages containing both. It's not rocket science, but it does take some thought, particularly when you create compound searches.

To help remember how focused each Boolean operator is, picture a pyramid, with NOT at the widest portion at bottom, OR on top of it, and AND at the narrow point. This pyramid structure illustrates the amount of information each operator brings back.

The Search Tussle

Now that you're a Boolean expert, how do the various search engines handle complex searches? Some don't. Excite, for instance, doesn't offer Boolean searches. Rather it applies a "fuzzy AND" to the words you enter, which — according to Excite — searches using both AND and OR, with greater weight given to pages including both words.

For search hounds Yahoo offers AND and OR bowlines — if you click on the Search Options link. NOT isn't supported, but you can tune a search further by selecting whether the search words should be considered whole words or parts of other words.

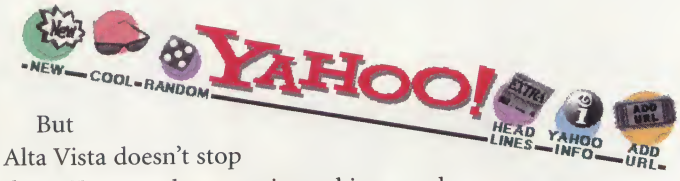


Like Yahoo, Lycos lets you select AND and OR operations if you select the "Enhance Your Search" link, but it goes a step beyond by letting you define how "tightly" to match the search to words it finds in its database. You do this in Lycos via a pull-down menu of choices ranging from loose to strong matches. Lycos also provides a way to cast a targeted, though wide, net by making compound searching easy. Compound what? Look at the following: (gin and tonic) or ((vodka and oj) or (vodka)). This one search is composed of three searches linked together. Lycos let's you do something like this by setting a "match x terms" parameter where x is from two to seven. With this option you can type a series of words and set how many must match in your target documents.

Pretty neat.

The reigning capo di tutti capi of search engines, Digital Equipment's Alta Vista, gives you every Boolean operator you could want: AND, OR, NOT, and NEAR — which lets you locate documents where certain words are within ten words of each other.

CONTINUES...



But Alta Vista doesn't stop there. You can also enter in ranking words and the documents matching your Boolean search will then be listed in order according to the ranking words. But wait! There's more. Alta Vista also let's you define a date parameter to match search documents to a given start and end date — very handy.

For my money, though, Infoseek offers the broadest range of search options and parameters. All the bowlines are there, plus you can locate documents where words are within one word of each other (great for those pesky computer terms) or within 100 words of each other. The downside is Infoseek forces non-standard search syntax upon you. Instead of actually typing in AND, OR and NOT, Infoseek uses "-", "+" and other symbols. Still, once you get the hang of Infoseek's idiosyncrasies, it's one powerful beast.

Putting the Search To Work

Of course much of the Web's appeal and usefulness stems from what I call the random book effect. Back when libraries were simply paper and books (when I wasn't getting into trouble) I loved walking up and down the aisles scanning bookshelves until something caught my eye. And that's the problem with formal searches — you only get what you ask for.

The real glory of the Web, and indeed any valuable information source, is that you often don't know what you want, or are interested in, until you stumble across it. The vastness of the Web virtually guarantees that you can meander from page to page for the rest of your natural life without running into the same page twice. But it also makes it correspondingly difficult to run into information that's side by side on the bookshelves, so to speak.

So in my book, perhaps the best bit of search wisdom to take to heart is to know when to use a carefully tailored search, and when to simply let the web lead you wherever it flows. You just might find something you really need, but didn't realize it until it appeared on your screen.

Rich Santalesa is the Executive Editor of NetGuide Magazine and former founding editor of Windows User.

How to differentiate your BBS from 73,000 competitors:

AOP
Association of Online Professionals

Association of Online Professionals
This online system is managed by a member of the Association of Online Professionals and voluntarily subscribes to the AOP Code of Professional Standards.

Association of Online Professionals
http://www.wdn.com/aop
info@aop.org

(703) 924-9692
(703) 264-1750 BBS
Telnet aop.org

Dear Delilah,
I'm a 67 year old lady with a new Pentium computer and I love to explore the online world. Where can I go to meet like-minded seniors? ***—Annie in Washington***

Dear Annie,
There is plenty for seniors on the major online services, like CompuServe and America Online, as well as various BBSs spread across the world. On AOL go to keyword "SeniorNet" and explore a whole bulletin board of topics, services, games and chat rooms. Or, if you enjoy the World-Wide Web, check out SeniorCom at **http://www.senior.com/**. Here you can visit the town square complete with newsstand, shopping, and travel resources. Have fun! There are lots of seniors online.

Dear D,
I want to make my own Web page. Where can I learn how to do this? ***—FLAJackson***

Dear Jackson,
There is a wonderful Web site just for you! **http://www.mcli.dist.maricopa,edu/tut/** will give you all you need to know to write HTML programming. You can learn how to make images and even link to other pages. And from this page you can link to other sites for more advanced information.

Dear D,
As the manager of a busy Real Estate office I must decide to what degree my salespeople should have access to the Internet. Are there real benefits? Pitfalls? ***—Sandra R.***

Dear Sandra,
If you are worried that your sales force will waste time "playing," you should know that there will no doubt be some of that. But there will be many benefits to developing an informative company home page or BBS, and your staff will be able to find numerous resources that will be relevant to their work. I suggest you give them some training and guidance at the beginning.

Dear D,
As a concerned parent, what software should I consider purchasing that will restrict access to objectionable material on the Net? ***—Tom in AK***

Dear Tom,
There is a growing market of "safe surf" software that keeps the power in the hands of the user instead of depending on government regulation. The very best way to know what your children are doing is to use the Internet with them. But since this isn't always possible, check out Net Nanny at **http://www.netnanny.com/netnanny** or CyberPatrol which imposes time restrictions at **http://www.microsys.com/cyber**. And there's SurfWatch at **http://www.surfwatch.com**.

Dear D,
Where can I find a matchmaking service on the Net? ***—Sara K.***

Dear Sara,
These abound. You can find them in your specific area, or geared to a specific interest or age group. Check out the Virtual MeetMarket at **http://wwa.com:1111/** or the Internet Social Registry at **http://www.vpm.com/isr/**. Good luck!

Dear D,
How hard is it to find love online? ***—Justaskin'***

Dear Just,
Depends on how "lovable" you are...:-) A meaningful relationship takes a lot of work, whether online or in the real world. But using your computer you can do some screening before you actually meet someone. And your selection is much broader — even global! Give it a try, but go cautiously.

Dear D,
My online love refuses to meet me. I am an attractive woman (I am told) and we have shared pictures of ourselves, but I can't understand his reluctance to take our relationship to the real world. Any ideas? ***—Confused in Bama***

Dear Confused,
Hummmm...usually men are anxious to meet their online sweeties. Perhaps he has not told you the complete truth about himself. I would be very cautious about this one.

Dear D,
I'm 16 and would like to know a good Net site for jokes. ***— Bobby in Austin***

Dear Bobby,
The Funny Bone **(http://www.indirect.com/www/nunley/bone)** is an online joke book you might enjoy.

Dear D,
Can you recommend some books about love relationships online? ***—SusiQ***

Dear Susi,
I would recommend my new book, *Ask Delilah...About Cyberlove* but that would be tacky...There are a number of new books on this interesting subject. Check out *net.sex* by Nancy Tamosaitis and *Love Bytes* by David Fox.

Dear D,
I am a high school student and my English teacher has given us the assignment of writing about our state of Oklahoma. Where can I find some information on the Internet? ***—Terry***

Dear Terry,
You can research anything online, ya know...and this site is a fine example of what can be done with a community Web site **htttp://www.keytech.com/okc/okchome.shtm**. You might also want to check out a state-run Web site for OK at **http://www.oklaosf.state.ok.us/**. Let me know if you get an "A."

Dear D,
I'm in love with a wonderful man I met on a BBS. But he is married. What should I do?? ***—LovingSadly***

Dear Loving,
I think you are gonna have to walk away from this one. Married men usually stay that way.

Deanna Warren is author of Ask Delilah...About Cyberlove. *She calls herself an anachronism in cyberspace — "a middle-aged lady who enjoys communicating with people all over the world on her computer." Contact her at delilah100@aol.com.*

The A-List

To check out the A-list on the Web, go to **http://www.channel1.com/usbbs/home**

If you're a sysop and would like to be considered for the list, contact one of the following sites. Posting to the USBBS List at these sites will place you on the A-List.

BOBsBBS — 916.929.7511

Livewire/CD SUB — Download CDSUB.ZIP from The Livewire BBS *(BBS Magazine's* support board) at 609.235.5297 and register the CD SUB Door program for a permanent listing.

FTP — Download USPUB103.ZIP from oak.oakland.edu, create USBBS.DAT and send the completed file to BOBsBBS or update@bobsbbs.uucp.netcom.com.

Call 609.953.9110 (voice) for help.

Derived from the USBBSLIST.

LEGEND

BBS TYPE	BAUD	MODULATION	SIZE	NODES	SUBSCRIPTION	INTERNET FEAT.
B	29	D	50+	3	$	3

BBS TYPE
A = Auntie
B = PCBoard
C = Phoenix/Collie/Collosus
D = dBBS
F = Spitfire
G = GAP
H = PC-Host
I = TriBBS
J = SuperBBS
L = Telegard
M = OraComm/Major/Galacticomm
N = Genesis Deluxe
O = Opus/Maximus
P = GT PowerComm
Q = QuickBBS/RemoteAccess
R = RBBS
S = Searchlight
T = TBBS or TCOMM
U = UltraBBS
V = WWIV
W = Wildcat
X = BBS-PC, RyBBS, ROS, Fido, Citadel, Osiris, etc. or custom, unverified or unknown type
Y = T.A.G.
Z = TPBoard

BAUD
0 = 300
1 = 1200
2 = 2400
9 = 9600 or faster

MODULATION TYPE
V = V.32 or V.32bis
U = USRobotics HST
H = Hayes VSM
F = V.Fast, V.34 (1/25/95)
O = Other proprietary method
D = USRobotics Dual Standard (V32 and HST)
B = Hayes Ultra (V32 and VSM)

SIZE
Indicated in 100s of megs.
+ = CD-ROM.

NODES
Number of lines

SUBSCRIPTION
$ = subscription; blank = FREE

INTERNET FEATURES

SERVICES	CODE 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
Mail	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Usenet	XX	XX	XX	XX											
FTP	XXXX	XXXX													
Telnet	XXXXXXXX														

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
Must support 2400 bps or greater
100 MB of disk capacity
24hr/7 day service
Sysop must give REAL NAME

201-209-4649 NJ Ogdensburg
Power Surge Matthew Black
Focus on Files and Doors
G 09 V 200 1

201-501-8431 NJ Dumont
Bill's Garage Bill Modica
Online games & Files Free
F 29 B 11+ 1

201-796-2535 NJ Glen Rock
Consent Adults C. Corleone
Chat (Adult)
M 19 V 200+ 16 $ 3

201-875-2736 NJ Augusta
DEL-BBS Doug Bradfield
General
X 19 F 13+ 3 3

201-896-1500 NJ Carlstadt
NAEMT BBS Kevin Agard
Emergency Medical Services
W 29 FF 11 2 3

201-997-9215 NJ Kearny
CYBEX Magazine Dante Iraola
Advertising, Classif. Sales
X 29 V 2 1

202-635-1755 DC Washington
Capital City Rod Pinnick
Internet, Entertainment, Chat
M 09 FD 20 26 F

203-624-7826 CT North Haven
Cyberworld Ed Giaimo
Games, Windows 95, NetWare
X 99 FV 35+ 2 $

203-626-8617 CT Torrington
Queen's Lair Dan Schibi
Gay Adult Board
Q 09 FF 10+ 2 1

203-759-5853 CT Waterbury
Continuum Scott Roncarti
Games, Education, and Utilities
F 29 VV 35+ 2

203-761-9097 CT Wilton
Dark Star Steve Waite
Sportsmen, Ham, Adult, Gun
X 29 F 3+ 1

205-447-2442 AL Rockrun
Rocky's RagBBS Lee Slate
Games, user-friendly
F 29 F 11+ 2

205-890-0280 AL Huntsville
Huntsville OnL Bill Hughes
Real estate, jobs, newcomer info
X 29 VF 11 6

206-355-2976 WA Everett
Mile Post One Michael McShane
Gaming, Christian-Based
B 29 VO 7+ 1

206-361-2235 WA Seattle
FFA-BBS Jim New
10th Amendment vs NWO
W 29 VO 14+ 1

206-361-9794 WA Seattle
Einstein's H. Hoggatt
Science subjects, biology etc.
W 29 VO 3 1

206-536-0000 WA Tacoma
Infrared Rose Joe Witenagemot
Free Total Access
M 99 F 20+ 25

207-873-1937 ME Winslow
Bits N' Bytes Anne Arnold
Info, Games, Files & Internet
W 19 V 900+ 2 $ 3

207-945-9901 ME Bangor
IDC BBS Ken Kimball
Business/Family
X 09 VV 10+ 2 3

209-277-7979 CA Fresno
LegacyInternet Sean Rultedge
Internet Surfing, Chat
M 09 FV 10 54 F

210-233-4877 TX Los Fresnos
Newberry BBS Ken Anderson
Support for KA_Soft software
B 29 VF 12+ 2 $

210-490-7231 TX San Antonio
SA OnLine Cris Montgomery
Real Estate, Jobs, Business
M 09 FB 16+ 4 $

212-741-2955 NY New York
NYC SCOUTING Robert Petrillo
Scouting - Council sponsored
B 19 BV 14+ 5

213-261-8055 CA Los Angeles
Wonderful Daniel Barcenas
Shareware, Mail, Games
W 29 F 30+ 4 $ 3

214-680-2461 TX Richardson
Computer Connx F. Osborne
General BBS, Outdoors, Health
P 09 V 4+ 1

215-321-6877 PA Yardley
Forest Jonathan Algazi
Adult, shareware
B 19 FV 23+ 2

215-624-8960 PA Philadelphia
RPS.BBS Murray Weismer
Bible/religion, Netmail, Files
W 29 FV 22 1

215-883-1900 PA Philadelphia
Onix BBS Jeff Miller
Entertainment, Chat, Internet
M 99 DF 25 38 $ F

215-923-8925 PA Philadelphia
Law-Link(tm) Sean Robins
All things law & genealogy
F 19 V 8 1

216-345-5623 OH Wooster
CJB's BBS Chris Butdorf
Doors, Files, Mail
F 09 F 50+ 1

216-381-3320 OH Cleveland
PC-Ohio Norm Henke
"The Best BBS in America"
B 29 VF 250+ 52 $ F

216-721-9991 OH Cleveland
Arpeggio BBS Kijin Jung
MIDI and other music-related
L 29 V 5 1

216-837-9845 OH Massillon
Twilight Keep Jeff Seifert
Games
X 29 VF 11+ 2 1

218-326-4205 MN Grand Rapids
Blue Sky BBS Jack Blue
Business & Family Oriented
W 09 FD 96+ 3 $ 3

219-356-6297 IN Huntington
Timbers Mark Timbers
Downloads, Games
B 09 D 10+ 1

219-696-3415 IN Lowell
Toolkit BBS Ken Prevo
Programming — Power Users
B 29 B 16+ 1

219-873-1949 IN Michigan Cit
MikesHost Michael Hoffman
Online Games & Related Files
X 19 V 19+ 1

301-353-1003 Md Germantown
Pete's Place Pete Raumann
Email, Files, Games and Chat
W 19 FF 45+ 2 3

301-417-9341 MD Gaithersburg
Artificial Hor Scott MacLean
Aviation, Programming
X 29 FD 5+ 2 3

301-609-9721 MD LaPlata
Back Room Paul M Duley
OS/2, Linux
B 09 F 55+ 1

301-620-0006 Md Frederick
OS/2 Mistress Wm Moussiaux
OS/2 Messages & Files Only
B 19 FV 40+ 4 B

301-881-4731 MD Rockville
TechNet BBS Robert Scott
Game Connection, Modem Games
M 29 BU 100+ 16 $ 3

301-994-9460 MD Great Mills
Hafa Adai Todd Cochrane
Software Support, Special Interests
W 29 F 250+ 3 $ F

303-429-8914 CO Westminster
Roman Catacomb Greg Shaw
Linux and rocat BBS support
X 19 FV 92+ 2 3

303-480-2090 CO Denver
Twi. Ale House Stephen Trumble
Homebrewing, files, games
X 09 V 2 1

303-678-8439 CO Longmont
Knowledge Resce Larry Gibes
Files, PC UserGrp,Liberty Polit.
B 19 V 50+ 1 3

303-693-9263 CO Aurora
Berean ConXion John Dibble
Christian Oriented
W 19 VF 28+ 3

305-258-3483 FL Princeton
Blue Water BBS Dan Bernasconi
Mindless Entertainment!
W 99 D 18+ 1

The A-List

309-836-1432 IL Macomb
Rod's Place Rod Rouse
Files, messages, door games
W 29 V 10 1

310-212-7605 CA Torrance
Beginners Club Vince Sheu
Three Email Networks
I 09 V 50+ 1

310-815-0117 CA Culver City
MPB Jack Stern
Entertainment, Games, Chat
M 09 VF 40+ 44 $ F

310-831-6775 CA San Pedro
Health Info Jerome Dorsey
Your Online Health Community
T 09 FD 17 5 3

310-858-1558 CA Bev. Hills
CyBERCHAT BBS Allen Williams
Fun, chatting, dating
X 09 V 5 8 3

310-986-9705 CA Signal Hill
Millenia Brian Andrus
Internet Access, Beginners
X 29 DF 999+ 16 $ F

312-534-5588 IL Chicago
Lane Tech Avrom Litin
High school Alumni and student
W 09 D 3 1

312-665-7319 IL Chicago
HOME AGAIN! William Johnson
Free access Internet email
B 09 FV 36+ 2 3

312-693-1223 IL Chicago
Local 1220 BBS Bob Kastigar
Work, Labor, Social, Law
W 09 V 120 1

313-388-7675 MI Lincoln Park
Logic Control Charles Adkins
Ham Radio, SWL, CB
Y 09 DF 5+ 1

313-427-4158 MI Garden City
Short Circuit2 Craig Dobis
Family, Online Games, Shareware
W 29 F 5+ 2

314-443-2391 MO Columbia
IWLA 2X4 BBS Kim Palmer
Fishing, Games, Files, OS Support
X 09 D 143+ 2

314-894-9473 MO St. Louis
TCC Scott Millikan
Communications, Games
A 09 FD 16+ 1 3

316-263-2563 KS Wichita
The Lost Dog Larry Friend
Animal lovers
S 29 F 5 1

316-788-0412 KS Derby
Sci-Fi Scene Allen Graham
Files, games, VGA Planet Host
W 29 V 1+ 1

316-792-6613 KS Great Bend
Graffiti BBS Kevin Fredde
Genealogy
X 09 V 7+ 1 2

316-796-1947 KS Hutchinson
Light House Elton Koehn
DOS discussion/utils
X 19 V 9+ 1

317-562-1882 IN Indianapolis
1st Amendment John Aikin
First Amendment questions
W 29 FV 14+ 4 $

317-742-4426 IN Lafayette
Cyberdelic Terry Johnson
Conspiracy
X 09 V 17+ 10 $ F

317-838-0445 IN Indianapolis
Shuttle BBS Guy Damlovac
Always the latest files online
B 99 FD 250+ 1

317-839-9745 IN Plainfield
Lost Entity Doug Meyer
Games, BBS files
B 99 FV 950+ 1

317-984-9199 IN Noblesville
dragon breath Jay Ploughe
Shareware games, comm, hobby
X 29 FV 72+ 1 1

319-236-0279 Ia Waterloo
Oculus Sinistr Rod Pilcher
Games, Files
F 19 F 7+ 1

319-236-6677 IA Waterloo
Graphic Illus Jeff Meier
General Interest
X 19 V 88+ 1

319-438-1921 IA Central City
Aardvark's BBS Keith Sippy
Astronomy, imaging, OS/2
O 19 D 130 2 $ 1

334-277-3889 AL Montgomery
Montgomry PCUG Jerald Conway
Family oriented — novices welcome
Q 09 V 5 1

334-460-0860 AL Mobile
Marsh Dragon "Drex" Hasam
RPG's chat and files
M 09 V 8 3 $

334-774-9946 AL Ozark
FastBytes Mark Feller
RaceNet, ILink Echo-mail
W 29 F 14 1

352-337-1354 FL Gainesville
FloridaNet! Tommy Orndorf
Florida Entertainment
W 99 D 14+ 5 1

352-854-0262 FL Ocala
Megachips Ken Gee
Diverse
W 29 FF 200+ 4 F

404-336-9701 GA Kingston
Warrior Base Johnny Bunch
Military, Survival, Camping
X 29 F 13+ 1

405-372-1421 OK Stillwater
Car 54 Don Vogt
General — Law Enforcement
B 99 F 10+ 2 3

405-670-1367 OK OklahomaCity
Shadow Magic Duane Robertson
Free speech and free access
X 29 FV 50+ 2 3

405-842-3158 OK Okla. City
Bare Metal BBS Tom Hunt
The Southwest's OS/2 Source
B 29 FV 20+ 10 3

406-265-3218 MT Havre
HHS BBS Chris Durward
Entertainment
X 29 V 3 1

406-782-7941 MT Butte
CulturlWasteld Todd Smyth
Star Trek, midi, general int
B 19 V 6+ 1

407-328-4294 FL Orlando
Home School Kevin Freer
Educational
W 29 V 5+ 1

407-375-8530 FL Boynton Bch
Strangelight Robert Heyen
Chat, Files, Games, Nets
T 09 VO 15 6 3

407-477-5756 FL Boca Raton
Substation Paul Cangialosi
Multimedia, images, shareware
B 19 V 100+ 4 $

407-496-6533 FL Delray Beach
Boca Bytes BBS Mel Macy
PC User Group
W 29 VF 33+ 3 1

407-640-0881 FL Palm Beach
Sunrise Realty Rozann Stephens
Real Estate, Vaction Travel
X 29 DD 140+ 8 7

407-657-5068 FL Orlando
DigiTel BBS C.J. Loflin
Star Wars, Comics, Japanimation
X 29 V 3+ 2 3

407-684-1200 FL W. Plm Beach
Eagles Nest Mark Netzel
Multi-User chatting
S 29 VF 10 6 3

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407-747-5679 FL Jupiter
Bloomunit BBS Linda Bloom
Homeschool Education
X 09 V 18+ 1

407-892-8968 FL St. Cloud
The Realm Matt McDonald
Seven CDROMs, Games, MSG Base
W 29 FV 70+ 1 7

408-378-6588 CA San Jose
Matrix Online Darryl Perry
Adult Nets
T 19 VV 15+ 2 1

409-245-1064 TX Bay City
Wizard's Sanct David Koenig
Graphics, General Dos Utils
S 09 O 10+ 1

409-724-6659 TX Port Neches
Tech BBS David Moore
Technical Related
V 09 VV 12+ 1

409-842-3251 TX Beaumont
Broad Reach Tim Beard
Sailing and Aviation
W 19 VV 14+ 2 9

410-483-2180 MD Rosedale
KroziersCastle Faith Kidwell
60 Games, 85,000+ Files, Fidonet
W 29 F 14+ 1

410-485-0551 MD Baltimore
Chesapeake Bay Philip Knott
Windows Multimedia experience
X 29 V 3 2

410-519-1465 MD Severn
G&P BBS Gil Blankenship
Shareware & Graphics
W 09 V 65+ 1

410-574-0068 MD Baltimore
Entrepreneur$ Mike McCullough
Business, Information Database
T 29 FV 5+ 2 $ 1

410-893-6905 MD Forest Hill
TimeDistortion Scott Waters
Chat & Internet
W 29 VF 124+ 8 3

412-226-9549 PA Natrona Hts
JABS Talk BBS Todd Simmers
Utilities, Tech. Info, General
W 09 FV 45+ 2 3

412-487-9223 PA Glenshaw
MetroPitt Emery Sedlak
Books and Writing
W 09 V 42+ 1 3

412-942-3957 PA McMurray
THE BRATS HOME Jon Chryk
"To let people have a lot of fun"
X 29 V 10+ 1 1

412-962-1435 PA Hermitage
Cyberscape Mark Yarian
Special Tech. & Information
O 09 FV 7 1

412-962-3212 PA Sharpsville
New Dawn System Alan & Kathy
Files, Games, Mail, Internet
I 29 V 16+ 1

413-443-7623 MA Pittsfield
Aspect BBS Paul Doucette
Shareware Games
X 99 FF 5+ 4 $ 3

413-782-2158 MA Springfield
Signal Hill Ed Thompson
Files, games, PCBoard files
B 29 FD 56+ 3

The A-List

414-546-3813 WI Milwaukee
Digital Dreams Keith Herms
Shareware, games, multimedia
T 29 FV 3+ 2

414-672-3290 WI Milwaukee
NW BBS LIST Freddie Reitz
BBS List, BBS Support Files
W 29 U 850 1

414-672-3881 WI Milwaukee
M.A.I.N. II BB Chris Mielke
WWIVnet, BBS Support, Games
V 19 V 14+ 1

414-723-7608 WI Elkhorn
DarkH2O Douglas Jackson
Files, ANSI/RIP1/RIP2 screens
S 29 VV 20+ 3

414-729-1157 WI Menasha
Eagle's Nest David George
Religious/Family Oriented
W 29 V 16+ 1

415-712-1641 CA HalfMoon Bay
Access Net Victor Michael
Travel & Cellular Technology
M 09 V 11+ 16 3

415-961-6911 CA Palo Alto
INTERACT Eric Knight
Chat, Games, Internet Srvcs
X 29 V 10 32 $ 9

417-623-3625 MO joplin
Ragged Edge M Wood
Chat, games, general interest
M 09 V 56+ 3

419-423-9133 OH Findlay
Fox's Den Russ McDaniel
Online games, CDROM online
X 29 FV 9+ 1

423-753-0041 TN Jonesborough
Ariana Interfa Greg Evans
Dedicated to Online Services
X 09 F 14+ 2 3

423-870-0794 TN Chattanooga
The Registry Bill Kern
Nat'l Registry Services
W 29 FV 150+ 3 $ 7

423-892-8834 TN Chattanooga
TLR Systems Bill Crawford
RIPscrip, Games, Files, Email
B 29 FU 150+ 1

423-922-4635 TN Knoxville
THE DARK ECLPS M. Sentell
We have RPG, files, and suport
X 19 FF 17+ 2 1

501-364-8176 AR Crossett
Arkla-Net Steven Dunham
Files, Online Games
B 99 FD 12 1

501-698-1798 AR Batesville
S.G.A. BBS Wayne Ray
Message echos
S 29 F 12+ 3 1

502-429-9767 KY Louisville
Pure Madness Rusty Lickliter
Fidonet, Door Games, Files
W 29 D 100+ 2 1

503-261-8889 OR Portland
Callahan's Pl. Lucas Aarons
Online Chat, Messages, Games
X 29 V 7+ 5 7

503-636-4947 OR Portland
DJO Mike Gottlieb
Chat & Entertainment
M 09 FV 140+ 26 F

503-646-4514 OR Portland
Adirondack David Katz
Technical Support
W 29 FD 50+ 10

503-691-7938 OR Tualatin
BBBBBS55 Tom Almy
Text files, writers
Q 19 VF 5 2 1

504-275-2605 LA Baton Rouge
Datacom BBS Randy Wesley
Games, Genealogy, OS/2, Linux
B 09 FD 42+ 4 $ B

504-455-0500 LA Metairie
SCCN Lance Gary
Sports Cards & Collectibles
W 99 F 0 0 $ 3

504-764-0449 LA Norco
Eagle's Nest John Perilloux
Politics
B 29 FD 60+ 1 $

504-885-5928 LA New Orleans
Southern Star John Souvestre
Internet, Fidonet, 25G files
T 09 VF 250+ 15 $ F

505-672-1665 NM White Rock
Political BBS B. Tafoya
Politics, Files, General
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OnlineSwapMeet Jennifer Rucker
Antiques and Collectibles
M 09 V 3 2 $

505-898-7120 NM Albuquerque
Dead End BBS Joel Yancey
Games, information, utilities
B 29 V 45+ 2 2

508-234-4939 MA Northbridge
Tigers Den Michelle Butler
Online Games
I 29 BV 7+ 1

508-266-1928 MA Acton
RubberNeck! Steve Larsen
Utilities, Personals, Adult, Game
W 29 B 2 1

508-278-0142 MA Uxbridge
Apparition BBS Walter Whitten
Newest shareware available
B 29 V 100+ 2

508-477-8211 MA Mashpee
CCS World Joe Cronin
Games, Information, Internet
M 09 FV 100+ 75 $ F

508-481-5478 MA Marlborough
Writer's BBS Brian Rickman
Authors, Poets, Literature
X 19 V 32+ 1 3

508-688-1816 MA Methuen
Tazman's BBS Kirk Scanlon
Educational, Online Entertainment
W 29 D 200+ 1 1

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B 29 BV 1 1

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HeadRush Brian Kokernak
Techno, subversiveness
X 29 V 2 1

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Jetstream Bill Garrison
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W 19 FD 22+ 2 $

510-371-6132 CA Livermore
Gamer's H.Q. Tami Garrison
Games
X 99 FV 10+ 2

510-568-7807 CA Oakland
Gold Diggers Harry Goldberg
Latest Files, Online Games
S 29 V 12+ 1 $

510-724-9296 CA Pinole
Greater Light Michael Bryant
Christian
X 29 VF 28+ 2 1

510-794-6401 CA Fremont
Phosphor BBS Glenn Sanders
Chat, games, forums, files
M 09 V 11 13 $

510-939-8344 CA Walnut Creek
Warped Max Baker
Friends, Messages, Files
V 09 FV 30+ 2

512-302-0675 TX Austin
Austin ClHouse C.Whisenant
Matchmaking
X 29 V 20 108 $ 9

512-328-2885 TX Austin
Shareware Concl Carlos Lopes
Official Apogee +Epic Dist Site
Q 09 VF 11+ 1 3

512-444-7854 TX Austin
Straylight BBS Mitch Burton
Art, Music, Demoscene, Onliners
X 19 V 2 1

512-668-9307 TX Alice
Digital U. Raymond Munoz
Music, Programming, BBS, etc.
X 29 F 0 0

513-393-0075 Oh Hillsboro
The Connection Rick Morris
OS/2, Geneology , Fidonet
B 09 FD 70+ 3 1

513-522-3766 OH Cincinnati
Collectors Cor Stacy Roberts
Trade Collectables (Cards, etc.)
W 29 F 14+ 1

513-573-9201 OH Mason
CyberSpaceExch Mike Rickman
Files, Games, Internet Access
W 99 V 15+ 6 D

513-753-3614 OH Cincinnati
Frank's Place Steve Rakel
Games, Cheats, Walkthroughs
F 99 VF 20+ 2

513-753-9353 OH Cincinnati
Scottish Moor Terry Chisholm
Dos (all) & Win (3-95) programs
R 29 U 8 1

continues...

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Hayes V-Series.....330-726-3619
All (V32 etc.) 330-726-2620
Fax 330-726-3595

The A-List

514-463-1086 QC Quebec
Megabyte BBS denny stamos
Messages, Doors, Gifs, 18+
W 99 VV 14+ 2

515-752-6554 IA Marshalltown
HorselessCarrge Warren Miller
DOS-based public archives
F 19 DF 60+ 1

516-234-4446 NY Hauppauge
1st Impression Pat Long
Alternative Lifestyle, Social
M 19 V 55+ 20 $ 8

516-496-4956 NY Syosset
DaCool BBS Jason Weill
Games, messages, "clean" fun
Q 19 FV 16+ 2 1

516-563-8225 NY Long Island
L.I. Online Jim Padberg
Local info, shareware, & adult
X 29 FV 14+ 4

516-696-9254 NY Coram
Slayers BBS P Mandracchia
Adult & Files
R 29 F 57+ 1

516-797-5376 NY Massapequa
Nuthin Fancy Robert Kern
Shareware, sysoping
X 29 FV 70+ 2 7

516-874-4778 NY EastMoriches
Relentless BBS R Malatestinic
Doors, CDROMs, adult, games
X 99 FU 10+ 1 1

516-897-0217 NY Long Beach
Optimus Online Andrew Lazarus
Free Files for All — No Ratios
B 29 FV 12+ 1

517-781-7653 MI Saginaw
DSM BBS Tim Fries
Recreation and Games
L 29 F 9+ 1

520-290-2807 AZ Tucson
Demodulator Jim Bennett
Mail, (COMMO) Support
X 29 D 12 1

540-362-8673 VA Roanoke
WB4QOJ Net 57 Lee McDaniel
Amateur Radio, SWL, Weather Info
I 19 FV 14+ 2

540-720-8503 VA Stafford
The DarkSword Derek Cosby
Files, games, genealogy
W 09 U 11+ 1

540-854-6760 VA Rhoadesville
Locust Grove Andy Hoffman
Games
G 09 F 4+ 1

540-898-9114 VA F'Burg
Diamond Mine Dave Perrussel
Conversation and chat
X 29 F 2+ 1 3

541-883-1239 OR KlamathFalls
Last Frontier Terry Slade
Online Games, Files, Internet
S 29 F 7 2 3

541-883-1574 OR KlamathFalls
Stormy Night Patti McMann
Family orientated, messages
W 19 VB 13+ 1

602-482-9382 AZ Scottsdale
LearningNET Larry Jakows
K-12 Education/Homeschooling
T 29 F 10+ 2 $ 3

602-873-3046 AZ Phoenix
Dragonfire BBS Brian Gollmer
Games (inter-BBS & local), files
F 19 V 40+ 1

602-902-0935 AZ Tempe
Headless Horse Michael Zambon
Techinical Help with computers
B 29 VF 100+ 4 2

602-978-6505 AZ Glendale
AMTBBS Larry Crabbe
Family, Messages, Files, Games
F 09 DU 40+ 1

602-997-6500 AZ Phoenix
Spectrum Images Pat Buckingham
Photographer Stock Photo House
T 09 D 90 16 $ C

603-585-3326 NH Fitzwilliam
More Byte BBS John Wells
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F 99 D 180+ 1

603-625-2687 NH Manchester
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W 19 VO 16+ 1 1

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modem gamelink Chuck Russell
4-player Doom online
M 29 FV 12+ 8 3

604-543-3000 BC Vancouver
Digital Rain Cory Novak
Making friends, MUDS, games
M 09 VF 20 40 $ F

604-624-4534 BC PrinceRupert
Pyramid BBS Mike Ringer
Emergency Services & S.A.R.
W 29 V 6+ 1

604-948-0275 BC Tsawwassen
Home HARDware Hardy Rosenke
Sysop Support
Q 19 DF 5 3 1

605-882-2458 SD Watertown
StarGate BBS Denny Kakacek
Email, Files and Information
B 09 FV 14+ 2 $

606-371-6337 KY Florence
Magic$oft BBS! Tem House
Files, Games, Email, Fun
W 29 FV 14+ 2 3

606-987-8230 KY Paris
Bourbon Bytes Peter Clough
Newbies, Local Flavored Info
X 29 V 400 4

608-356-4777 WI Baraboo
The RF Deck Steve Schulze
Amateur (HAM) Radio
I 19 FV 40+ 1 2

609-241-1436 NJ Swedesboro
32 Bit Bus Bob Bernstein
FS5 Files, Aviation Related
B 29 FD 55 2 7

609-296-4370 NJ Tuckerton
Mystical Illus Michelle Havens
Family Oriented! All Welcome
X 19 FV 12+ 2 $ 1

609-467-5540 NJ Swedesboro
Alex's World Alex Mastrando
Complete Information System
G 29 FD 202+ 3 7

609-467-9649 NJ Swedesboro
Logan's Run Nick Mela
Stock quotes updated hourly
B 29 VF 14+ 10 $ F

609-484-8874 NJ Pleasantvill
Roman Catholic Kenneth Leary
Catholic/Christian
W 29 FV 2 1

609-488-1365 NJ Merchantvill
ROAD TO HEAVEN Mark J. Zia
Theology, Windows, PCBoard
B 29 D 31+ 1

609-764-0812 NJ Delran
Radio Wave Tyler Myers
Low Cost Internet Access
B 19 FD 100 6 F

609-783-5864 NJ Lindenwold
Class Bulletin Albert Rania
LORD, LUNTATIX
X 19 B 2 1

609-853-0568 NJ W Deptford
Lightning Bolt Raymond Schwilk
Adult
W 29 F 35+ 2

609-858-1598 NJ Collingswood
FOP#30 Mike Reher
Professional Law Enforcement
B 29 V 1 2

609-875-0968 NJ Williamstown
The NJLink BBS John Gonski
Files
B 09 V 3 1

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609-888-2498 NJ Trenton
Kimmy's BBS Kim Poland
No particular focus
V 29 V 4+ 1 1

609-890-6347 NJ Ham. Square
CyberCity USA Bob Marsley
Chat, Entertainment, Internet
M 19 DF 45+ 6 F

610-259-2034 PA Philadelphia
DVOL Steve Weisz
Regional Information, Internet
M 99 F 12+ 32 $ F

610-259-2193 PA Lansdowne
AirPower BBS Jim Henry
3579BDF
B 09 F 19+ 4 $ 1

610-779-2123 PA Reading
GANGSTER BBS Daniel Grimes
"We have everything you need!"
W 29 DF 30+ 1

610-944-0532 PA Fleetwood
TWILIGHT Luois Pupo
"We have almost everything!"
W 29 DF 250+ 2

612-454-0332 MN St. Paul
Invisix Matt Jurcich
Interlink Teleconference/CDROM
M 09 FV 18+ 3 3

614-864-6671 OH Columbus
PC One Paul Lapczynski
Games, Files, Messages
W 09 D 14+ 1

614-885-8511 OH Columbus
Anderson's BBS Bob Anderson
Files
F 09 F 92 1

615-503-8397 TN Clarksville
Miltry Conecton Paul Keefrider
Military-Related files/programs
O 29 F 6+ 1

615-791-5638 TN Franklin
SAFTEK Stephen Tenhet
Occupational Safety & Health
W 29 VO 9+ 10 $ 3

616-243-8960 MI Grand Rapids
City Heat Dave McIntyre
OS/2 and DOS files + Fidonet
B 29 F 23+ 2

617-397-8888 MA Malden
Boston Rocks Ron Doty
Music Based — Home of RockLink
W 29 FV 240+ 6 3

617-665-0977 MA Melrose
OuterCityLimits Ken Rogers
General PC files, Atari
B 09 FV 40+ 2

617-749-0526 MA Hingham
The Fun-House Bruce Kelly
Family Oriented, full featured
Q 19 V 12 1 1

617-961-7870 MA Randolph
N.E. Online Michael Flood
OS/2 and Power Users
B 29 FU 40+ 2

618-684-3990 IL Murphysboro
HDCafe Marc Albrycht
Graphics, Windows95, Internet
W 09 FD 700+ 2 9

618-932-6927 IL W. Frankfort
Channel][Robert May
Business, Internet, Games
Q 19 DF 72+ 3

618-949-3898 IL Golconda
pUrE iNfO Melvin Deagan
Info on phone systems
W 29 F 12 1 $

619-452-3131 CA San Diego
IEEE SD BBS Larry Hamerman
Engineering/Technical
W 09 DV 5 1 3

619-523-9025 CA San Diego
Techno-Mages Holly Sullivan
DLG BB/OS home support site
X 29 FV 4 1

619-588-8725 CA El Cajon,
Jim's E County Jim Condon
International Echomail, Files
W 09 FV 18+ 2 3

701-271-9317 ND Fargo
Victoria Stn Daniel Chihos
Files and local discussions
X 09 F 6+ 1

701-280-2343 ND Fargo
SPECTRUM BBS Dale Hill
General Messages, Files & Games
X 29 F 9+ 1 3

702-254-8601 NV Las Vegas
ABSOLUT TEMP Charles Shapiro
U'NI-net Netmail, OS/2
B 19 VF 40+ 2 3

702-747-5432 NV Reno
T.U.BBS Michael Fox
General Interest, Doors, Files
S 09 V 17+ 1

703-243-9755 VA Arlington
Freepnt Matrix J. Ivey
Conversation, games, files
V 09 VB 4 1

The A-List

703-730-1996 VA Dale City
BizZ BuzZ Brian Heise
Windows/Win 95
L 29 OD 14+ 2 $

703-730-3115 VA Dale City
Circle Circus Bob Lotspeich
PCBoard support files
B 29 VF 5 1

703-934-4461 VA Merrifield
The Alamo BBS M Rodriquez
Games
M 99 V 15+ 28 $ F

704-428-4259 NC Maiden
The Maxx BBS Robert Koliha
Door Games, Messages, Files
S 19 VU 1 1

704-685-3079 NC Hendersonvil
Midnight Blaise Going
Public Information Domian
X 09 VF 14+ 4 7

704-983-2877 NC Albemarle
Small Wonder Mark Brooks
Something for the whole family
X 19 OF 14+ 1 $ 1

705-725-0183 On Barrie
The BUG BBS Charles McColm
Business, Games, Information
X 19 V 6 1 1

708-369-9183 IL Naperville
GUS 'N GOLF Sue Lane
Music, Sound, Computer Golf
W 29 FV 14 1 3

708-442-8117 IL Lyons
The Lyons Den John Partipilo
Files, Online Games, SFNET mail
F 99 DF 5 1

708-462-1508 IL Wheaton
Whtn File Exch Jim Amidei
Best of Shareware & Usenet
W 29 VD 50+ 5 $ 3

708-482-4477 IL Countryside
IrishEyes Joseph Tybor
Notre Dame football news
M 29 V 200 20 $ 9

708-717-9370 IL Naperville
Com One Craig Wells
SOHO Networking, Files, Email+
B 29 V 50+ 5 $ 3

708-724-0975 IL Glenview
So Thats Whatc Douglas Leeper
U.S. Marine, Christian areas
W 09 DF 27+ 1

708-729-2902 IL Glenview
windows techk Roger Heath
Chicago's Windows BBS
B 09 FF 25+ 16 $ F

708-894-9312 Il Medinah
The Borg Bill Valiunas
Computer Support, Networking
W 99 F 35+ 1

712-225-0206 IA Cherokee
The Swordmastr Robert Bunch
Many Doors and lots of shareware
W 29 O 6+ 1

713-320-0197 TX Houston
BHA & Assoc. Ben Askew
Messaging, CDROMS, Files
B 29 DF 20+ 3 3

713-442-6704 TX Houston
PsL Online H. Brimberry
Full Service BBS/PPP Internet
B 29 FV 20+ 12 7

714-279-1140 CA Anaheim Hill
FSU BBS Paul Egger
Online adult meeting place
M 09 FV 300+ 38 $ F

714-956-4698 CA Anaiem
4Next GT BBS Jeffrey M Smith
No Age General Access; Chat/Games
M 19 V 300+ 111 $ F

715-445-6000 WI Iola
Global Gallery B. Gardner
Entertainment, Internet Access
M 09 V 12+ 32 D

715-726-0501 WI Chip. Falls
Storm BBS Clay Busker
Music Mods, demos
X 19 V 10+ 1

716-352-6544 NY Rochester
freefilefarm Eric Florack
Files; Huge U/D areas, 100 conferences
P 09 FV 600+ 2 2

716-547-9970 NY Darien
The Dark Side2 Mike Cherven
Games, files, fun
F 09 D 20+ 2 C

continues...

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717-242-0419 PA Lewistown
LIN Rod Swigart
Chat, Games and Multimedia
M 19 FV 11 5 3

717-248-6190 PA Lewistown
HOMEBREW BBS David Corson
Games, GIF's and adult GIF's
I 09 FV 13+ 2 1

717-383-9661 Pa Peckville
DATA CONECTION John Mulderig
Shareware
X 29 V 10+ 1

717-420-8937 PA analomink
Magic Dominion lance merlen
All general files — all ages
W 19 D 14+ 2

717-473-8599 PA Northumberla
The Cat land Duane Holter
Games and software — free access
W 29 F 6+ 1

717-588-7549 PA Bushkill
PoconoMountain Paul Faeder
Paranormal, UFOs Unexplained
Q 09 FV 12+ 0 3

717-648-1397 PA Ranshaw
The Black Box Charles Black
Door Games
X 09 F 5+ 1

717-730-8504 PA Lemoyne
Stimpy's Sandb Mark Friend
Free, ASP member BBS
I 19 FV 14+ 3 1

718-375-5561 NY Brooklyn
System X Arthur Gorecki
Erotica, games, technical
B 99 FD 74+ 2 3

718-547-4210 NY Bronx
After Hours Ed Calvin
Computer related forums/files
M 09 V 10 4

719-637-0353 CO Colo Springs
Knightshade George Shaw
Files, Games, Echos
Q 29 VF 14+ 1

770-336-9701 GA Kingston
Warrior Base Johnny Bunch
Military, survival, camping
X 29 F 13+ 1

770-998-7373 GA Marietta
Cyber-X BBS Robert Ball
Adult, Games, Programming
B 29 VF 60+ 2 $

800-487-8387 DC Washington
VA OnLine Marty Bales
Information for veterans
W 19 V 14+ 15 D

801-224-2547 UT Orem
Hackers Haven Ed Wilkinson
Business, Games, Programming
B 99 DF 80+ 6 2

801-775-0820 UT Layton
The Jackyl BBS Kevin Harvey
Fidonet Filebone
Y 99 VF 25+ 1 3

803-552-4389 SC N.Charleston
Earth Art Bob Chapman
Environment, Art, GREEN BBS List
B 09 DF 128+ 4 3

803-795-9350 SC Charleston
New World John Jones
Online CDROMs
Q 29 FD 999+ 1

803-796-7235 SC W.Columbia
EntNameHereBBS Chip Meyers
Support, Fidonet Filebone, Echos
Q 29 FB 8 1 1

803-875-2428 SC Ladson
Carolina Chat Robert McElwee
Full Internet, Doom, Chat
M 19 FV 12+ 49 $ F

804-237-3823 Va Lynchburg
Brownings Wrld Ralph Browning
"Something for Everyone!"
W 19 VO 9+ 3

804-253-2307 VA Williamsburg
LightOTheBurg Nelson Scott
Christian/family
W 29 FV 10+ 1

804-491-0026 VA Chesapeake
Thin Blue Line Scott White
Law Enforcement
Q 29 F 8 2

804-590-2161 VA Matoaca
Servant of Lord Dr C.A. Wootten
Christian Resource
W 19 FV 11+ 2 3

804-979-1036 VA Charlottesvl
Flat Line Paul Suggs
General information
W 09 F 120+ 1

805-374-9997 CA Thousand Oak
The Matrix Denny Cherry
Games, fun, and great files
W 09 B 18+ 1

805-376-9191 CA Newbury Park
Data Field BBS David Levin
OS/2, DOS, Programming, Games
X 29 FV 5 1 3

805-526-0609 CA Simi Valley
The Data Shop Alan McDonald
Information & Entertainment
M 09 DF 50+ 6 3

805-685-5827 CA Goleta
Cyburbia Dan Weiss
Conspiracy/Music
X 19 FV 14 2

808-947-9421 HI Honolulu
Onipa a BBS L. Kwiatkowski
Native Hawaiian Sovereignty
S 19 D 11 1

808-969-3698 HI Hilo
TattChat Steve Cotten
Full Service, Internet, Files
W 29 V 10+ 1 7

809-274-1872 PR Hato Rey
CyberNet Onlin Jaime Barcelo
Business, Internet, Windows 95
X 29 VU 17+ 3 $ F

809-283-1090 PR San Juan
File Gallery F Caceres
File libraries, Internet
M 09 VV 20+ 23 $ D

809-283-6942 PR San Juan
Centus Edfel J. Rivera
Business, Productivity
W 29 V 20+ 2 2

810-227-3875 MI Brighton
The Newtonian Mark Newton
Internet, Windows, PowerBBS ++
X 29 F 16+ 2 F

810-751-6704 MI Warren
Short Circuit Eric Dobis
Family based with no adult material
W 29 DF 20+ 2

812-299-9306 IN Terre Haute
Ivy Tech's BBS Philip Brown
Educational BBS, 2 Cd's, Nets
F 29 FV 13+ 1 2

812-426-0477 IN Evansville
Graph Station Tony Hite
12 CDROMs Online, Games
W 29 FD 200+ 2

812-898-2561 IN Terre Haute
Flaming Star April Brown
CD sales, 6 CDs Online, Nets
F 29 V 40+ 1 2

813-841-7231 FL Port Richey
TOoM James Sumner
Files
X 19 F 10+ 1

813-856-0577 FL Hudson
Traveling Man david zimmer
General, files, events, sales
I 29 V 5+ 1

814-237-3825 PA StateCollege
MagneticBottle Bill Mertens
Computer Clubs BBS
B 19 FF 20 2

814-886-2563 PA Cresson
The Summit Richard Lis
Sysop Services, Geneology
S 19 DF 60+ 2 1

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815-886-0494 IL Romeoville
ElectricEstates John Damore
Files and Messages
B 09 FV 180+ 2 3

816-241-8442 MO Kansas City
Connections MHN Telecom.Inc
"Alternative to AOL — With More!"
X 29 FO 14+ 9 $ 3

816-322-5494 MO Belton
Night Watch David Fuller
Shareware, Games, Information
B 29 VF 30+ 2 1

816-331-3782 MO Belton
Howard's Ntb. Jim Howard
Nudist, Green Support, Ham
W 19 F 14+ 2 F

817-280-9943 TX Hurst
Ocean Breeze Ted J. Mieske
Electronic & Music files
A 19 V 10+ 1

817-565-9165 TX Denton
Mezzanine Walter Bowen
Macintosh Support plus DOS & WIN
X 09 DF 23+ 1

817-666-1595 TX Hewitt
The Wolves Den Mark Richter
Hardware/Software Support
V 99 FV 35+ 3 1

818-280-4220 CA Rosemead
Shiloh BBS Michael Cruz
Christian, CalvaryNet
W 29 F 10+ 1

818-366-1238 CA Granada Hill
MOG-UR'S EMS Tom Tcimpidis
Diverse Social & Technical BBS
W 29 FD 910+ 5 3

818-881-0131 CA Reseda
GAMELINK Tony Becker
Game connection and online games
M 29 VO 14+ 8

847-608-4977 IL Elgin
Fox River Net Dave Gourd
Earth — Use Us, Don't Abuse Us
W 19 V 1 1

847-724-0975 IL Glenview
S.T.W.C.I! Douglas Leeper
U.S. Marine, Christian, Free
W 09 DF 27+ 1

860-228-9814 CT Hebron
Cyberian BBS N. McMullin
Information Services
B 29 F 14+ 2 3

860-673-6247 CT Unionville
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OS/2! Tons of DOS, Windows
Q 29 FD 80+ 1

901-452-4779 TN Memphis
Memphis Online Jane Hayden
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S 09 V 10 12 3

901-632-1947 TN Adamsville
SMART MOVE S English
Games Plus
Q 29 UF 14+ 6 $ F

901-837-7345 TN Atoka
doc's box William Webb
Vetlink net and vafnet link
L 19 VB 5 1

903-596-7816 TX Tyler
Crossroads Rod Hendricks
Chat, Macintosh files
X 09 F 25+ 50 $ B

904-220-9404 Fl Jacksonville
Online Games Joshua Isaacson
Games (Doom)[, Doom, Heretic)
M 09 V 4 2

904-247-8089 Fl Atl Bch
Medieval Gate Erik Rabassa
Open To All Groups
X 29 V 6+ 1 2

904-336-4717 FL Gainesville
Vampires Guild Josh Ward
Games, Files
X 29 V 600+ 1

904-387-3680 FL Jacksonville
Data-Conn Dennis Buys
Car Audio & Happenings
V 29 D 1 1

904-398-6401 FL Jacksonville
LIVEWIRE O.S. Terry Peat
RIP Graphics, Local Interest
S 29 V 5 1

904-589-2532 Fl Grand Island
Trust No One Brian Cash
Political
X 19 FV 12+ 2

904-682-7516 FL Crestview
Smugglers Cove C. Infinger
Gaming BBS — "We write our own!"
X 99 D 400+ 1

904-739-8905 FL Jacksonville
Ulti-Creation Denny Davis
Files, Games , PC Utilities
L 29 F 24+ 1

904-863-2290 FL Fort Walton
The Nucleus Jaime Bozza
Games, chat and full Internet
M 19 FD 40+ 44 F

905-354-9932 ON N.F.
MiND WaRP BBS C. Marlatt
Games, Files
X 19 O 8+ 1

905-646-8932 ON StCatharines
Our Gang I Darla Monette
Adult Games; General BBS
X 09 V 16+ 2

905-770-9540 ON Richmond Hil
Platinum Comm Glenn Jarvis
Net-Mail, Online Shopping
W 19 VO 10+ 4

906-482-4261 MI houghton
Subterranean C CJ Henning
Messages, Games, Files
X 09 DF 6 2

907-488-3751 AK North Pole
T.C.'s BBS Tom Creek
Fidonet File and Echomail feed
Q 09 FV 25+ 2 $ 1

908-335-1135 NJ Holmdel
Trepydation BBS David Kaiserman
Gothic, Industrial, Hardcore
W 19 VO 18+ 1

908-388-4742 NJ Colonia
MERCHANTS BBS Tony Szablowski
Games, network s/w, messaging
W 29 FV 65+ 1

908-528-2278 NJ Manasquan
BART's Place Brett Sabio CPA
Business, Accounting
W 19 FV 8+ 1

908-558-7356 NJ Hillside
Train Station B. Adankewicz
Ham Radio
W 29 F 14+ 1

908-634-7815 NJ Woodbridge
Another Board Jon Rudolph
Doors, messages, files
X 29 FV 16 1

908-815-1208 NJ Clark
N2PSU LL BBS Wayne DeBiasio
Amature Radio
W 29 D 30+ 1

908-901-7138 NJ Howell
Ads-On-Line M. Piatkowski
Potbellied Pigs & Hockey
X 19 FV 5 1 7

909-686-3690 CA Riverside
FOXFIRE BBS! Glenn Porter
General interest, files, games
X 19 FF 25+ 4 3

909-882-7887 CA S Bernardino
VirtualVillage Ed Sponsler
Online games with the latest sharware
W 09 V 14+ 3 3

910-292-1979 NC Greensboro
The BillBoard Bill Bailey
Computer Hobbyist/Professional
W 19 V 10+ 2 3

912-538-7950 GA Vidalia
Cornerstone Michael Brazell
All-around general BBS
W 29 F 15+ 1 $

912-786-9047 GA Tybee Island
TYBEE LYTES' Pat Malone
Tourism, Internet, Consulting
X 19 FF 26+ 3 7

912-787-1438 GA Albany
The PIT BOARD Allen Madding
Motorsports
X 09 FV 10+ 1

913-483-4554 KS Russell
black door Monty Black
DOS, Windows, Discussion
X 19 V 4 1 1

913-661-9900 KS OverlandPark
Club Met Ed McCullough
Entertainment, chat, games
M 19 VF 100+ 500 $ F

913-663-3333 KS OverlandPark
Metro. (Big 10) Ed McCullough
Entertainment, chat, games
M 19 VF 100+ 500 $ F

914-242-0691 NY BedfordHills
Shadolands Dan Leslie
All-purpose board
X 09 VF 32+ 4 3

914-665-1725 NY Mount Vernon
Go Diamond! C. Brewington
Business & Unique Files, Email
I 09 FU 4 1 1

914-734-1370 NY Verplanck
The Point BBS Laura Weathers
Programming, business, games
B 19 V 10+ 1

914-896-0049 NY Fishkill
The Game Frame B. Burton
Multiplayer Game Server
M 99 VF 1 6

914-964-0419 NY Yonkers
Lost Carrier Gerry Schechter
Free general fun
B 29 DF 6+ 2 1

915-520-0114 TX Midland
Baron's Castle J.Hautzenroeder
Games & Graphics
X 09 F 45+ 3

915-590-4284 TX El Paso
Fantasy BBS Joe Jaquez
Adult GIFs and movies
X 09 V 100+ 256 $

915-598-9751 TX El Paso
Vulcan BBS Joe Jaquez
Adult GIFs and movies
X 09 V 100+ 256 $

916-332-4217 CA Sacramento
Sleepy Hollow Chuck Sinclair
Programming
X 29 V 11+ 1 B

916-339-9950 CA N. Highlands
Leather World Ralph Chandler
Adult-oriented leather BBS
X 09 D 10+ 4

916-388-0905 CA Sacramento
Omni Charles Meadows
Genealogy, Games, Files
W 29 FV 38+ 3 3

916-534-5329 CA Oroville
TDEC West BBS John Young
Email, Games, Technical
I 29 D 16+ 2

916-721-7021 CA Antelope
Cyber Bytes John Johnson
Family Entertainment
I 19 VF 5 1

916-889-2247 CA Auburn
T.S.BBS.Around Jon Anderson
Games, Email, Files
I 19 V 1 1 1

916-929-7511 CA Sacramento
BOBsBBS Bob Breedlove
Home of the USBBS List
X 09 F 2 1

918-251-3160 OK Broken Arrow
FOX ONE BBS Bill Rogers
Flight Simulation
B 29 V 10 1

918-254-4779 OK Tulsa
RAM Corner Randy Knox
Overall Fun Communications
X 29 VF 13+ 2 7

919-233-1035 NC Raleigh
Paronomasia Denny Frye
Humor, Games
V 09 V 6 1

919-537-8248 NC Roanoke Rapd
Lizards Lair Don Keisling
Doors (50+) and Files
X 29 FV 32+ 2 1

919-639-3484 NC Angier
Community BBS Aaron Harmon
Community Service Oriented
W 19 V 6 1

919-735-6889 NC Goldsboro
PowerHouse James Bleacher
Chat
T 09 V 14+ 5

954-425-0929 FL FtLauderdale
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M 19 VF 9+ 16 $

954-438-8999 FL Hollywood
FantasticPlnet Michael Sweat
Games, Files, Chat
M 09 FV 13+ 16 $ 3

954-572-4910 FL Sunrise
E.D.S BBS Wayne Lampiasi
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WWW:
http://dkeep.com/sbi.htm
Includes a "Guided Tour of Internet," BBSs from around the world.

FTP:
dkunix.dkeep.com (in /pub/sbi)
login:anonymous

gcomm.com (in /internet)
login: anonymous

ftp.rahul.net (in pub/wco)
login: ftp

Finger:
sbi@dkeep.com
(Information about the SBI List)

sbiq@dkeep.com
("Quick" Guide to Select BBS's on Internet)

sbi-info@dkeep.com
(Revision Information for current list)

sbi-sysop@dkeep.com
(How to Become a Part of the SBI list)

BBS:
Dragon Keep — dkeep.com / 904.375.3500 (signup, then type /GO SBI)
Liberty Network Hub — libhub.liberty.com/ (800) 474-1818 (signup, /GO SBI)

Color = New since last revision

A Clockwork Online
clockwork.com 204.215.118.1
Absolute Connection
a-c.in.net. 199.0.62.164
A PSEUDO LAISSEZ-FAIRE BBS
Name says it all. Most important rule is "Don't bother the Sysop!"
computrs.com. 204.130.225.2
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Abuse! Online
ABUSEME.COM. 206.96.178.241
Access Nevada
spillway.accessnv.com. 199.2.253.3
Access One Online Services
access-one.com 204.95.83.100
ACE InfoSystems
aceinfo.com 199.190.76.2
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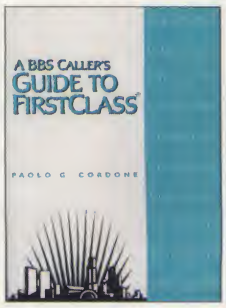

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By Jacqui Kramer

Internet, Non... Minitel, Oui!

For the past dozen years or so, the people of France have accessed everything from movie tickets to history lessons via a desktop electronic device that offers secure transactions and the utmost in privacy.

So who needs the Internet?

That seems to be the big question in France, where the proprietary Minitel system rules supreme. Minitel is the brainchild of France Telecom, the state-owned (and operated) telecommunications company. The idea was simple: Give away the Minitel boxes (essentially dumb terminals) and make money the old-fashioned way — through long distance charges.

Today, more than 16 million people in France use Minitel, compared to around 20,000 Internet users (not including military personnel and students). And why not? After all, it's free, and the services offered are convenient.

According to one survey, the top tasks accomplished via Minitel, in order, are: banking services, mail-order services (e.g., shopping), transportation information (e.g., checking a bus schedule), weather services, and entertainment information. Plus, Minitel has a built-in billing and payment system that means never having to place your credit card number on the network. Users can even order and pay for pay-per-view events on the system.

Minitel's easy access to these and other basic services make Internet fans seem almost foolish. Why waste time on those silly old Doom pages when you could be making dinner reservations, ordering flowers, and taking care of real life?

Minitel also benefits from its heritage as a home-grown service that is uniquely French. The original Minitel terminals debuted back in the prehistoric year of 1981, when a gopher was still a small furry animal, webs were swept away with a broom and BBSs were just being born. From the beginning, the system has offered services that anyone would want, if they knew they existed. Naturally, it built a major following that is now reluctant to abandon the service in favor of the Internet. As a result, France is falling behind many other European nations (including Great Britain and Germany) that are hopping on the Infobahn.

This may be a case of sticking with the family station wagon while the neighbors buy Peugeots, however. The original Minitel system, which has a major installed base, features a clunky black-and-white interface and top speeds of 1200 baud. Granted, a new, updated Minitel box with speeds of up to 9600 bps is now available. But wouldn't you still rather have a V8?

Image is not the only thing preventing France from jumping on the Internet bandwagon, however. Price also is a considerable factor. An Internet connection requires a personal computer, which averages around US$3,000 in France. This is a significant investment, no matter where you live — especially when many French residents still have the original Minitel dumb terminal, which was provided to them for free. (Advanced models have been made available, but are not as prevalent as the original terminals.)

By now you may be wondering what, exactly, has enraptured an entire nation in much the same way the Internet has enslaved the better part of my generation. Well, wonder no more! If you have a Macintosh or Windows machine, Internet access (specifically, Telnet), and plastic, you too can join the wonderful world of Minitel. The client software can be downloaded for free at: **http://www.minitel.com/**. The latest service rates will be provided to you when you are ready to go online.

Keep in mind that the clock starts ticking as soon as you arrive — this is one service that does not give you a free trial period. Also, the charges accrue on a minute-by-minute basis — not something that encourages casual visits, especially if you already pay long distance charges for your Internet service. However, if you are planning a trip to France (or live in striking distance of the nation), it might be worth visiting.

Personally, I'm sticking with BBSs and the Internet.

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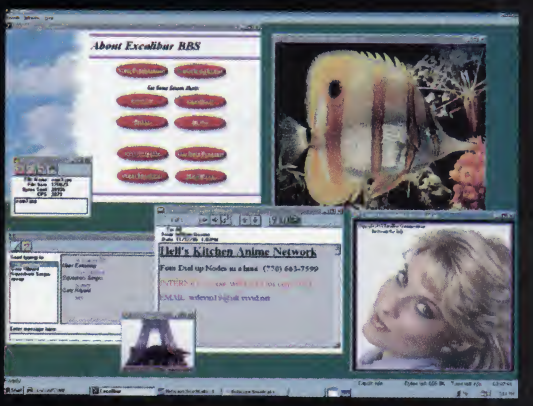

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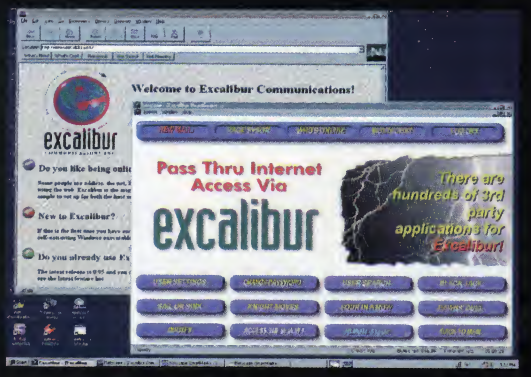
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